

# LOK SABHA DEBATES

**SECOND SERIES**

**VOLUME V, 1957**

*( 9th August to 24th August, 1957 )*



**SECOND SESSION, 1957**

*( Vol. V contains Nos. 21 to 30 )*

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI.**

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## LOK SABHA DEBATES

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### LOK SABHA

Tuesday, 18th August, 1957.

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

नागा पहाड़ी क्षेत्र

\*-२६ { श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी :  
          { श्री विभूति मिश्र  
          { श्री सचरत :

क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि नागा पहाड़ी क्षेत्रों में पूर्ण शान्ति व व्यवस्था स्थापित करने की दिशा में क्या प्रयत्न किये जा रहे हैं ?

गृह-कार्य मन्त्रालय में राज्य-मन्त्री (श्री बातर) : २४ मई, १९५७ के अतारकित प्रश्न संख्या २२४ के भाग (ग) के उत्तर की ओर ध्यान धाकृष्ट किया जाता है जिसमें नागा पहाड़ी क्षेत्रों में सामान्य स्थिति लाने की दिशा में किा जा रहे प्रयत्नों का उल्लेख किया गया है ।

**Shri Datar:** I shall read the answer in English also.

Attention is invited to the reply given to part (c) of unstarred question No. 224 on the 24th May, 1957, indicating the measures being taken to restore normalcy in the Naga Hills.

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : उस प्रश्न के भाग (ग) के उत्तर में यह बतलाया गया है कि सरकार ने तमाम आवश्यक कदम उठा

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रही है कि जिसमें वहाँ पर कानून की व्यवस्था स्थापित हो जाये, में जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार बतला सकेगी कि कौन कौन से वे कदम हैं जो सरकार उठा रही है ?

**Shri Datar:** Government are taking steps to maintain law and order. Government are giving help for the rehabilitation of the people. Government are also helping those who have suffered on account of the conditions there.

श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी : मंत्री महोदय ने यह बाने तो उम मवाल के जवाब में बतला दी थी कि Government is taking all other necessary steps, and I wanted to know what are the other necessary steps

**Shri Datar:** The other necessary steps are on the same lines. I may also point out to the hon. Member that certain non-official Members also are moving into the interior, and the conditions are improving, and all the people are in a mood to co-operate with the Government. They appreciate what is being done for them.

**Shri Ranga:** Was there any representation from the Assam Government that steps should be taken to increase the co-operation and co-ordination that should be there between the administration of the Assam Government and our own officials there?

**Shri Datar:** That is the policy which is followed all along.

श्री विभूति मिश्र : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार ने बगावती नागा लोगों के नेताओं से मिलने का कोई प्रयत्न किया है तोकि उन में मिल कर शान्ति स्थापित की जा सके ?

**Shri Datar:** Sometimes these persons approach the intermediaries, not directly the Government, with a view to find out what they can get.

**Shri Sampath:** May I know whether, in view of the fact that the situation does not show any remarkable improvement, Government will not consider adopting some other method than the present armed suppression?

**Shri Datar:** The situation is showing signs of improvement.

**श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी :** मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि नागा हिल्स में न्याय व्यवस्था स्थापित करने में रफली कितना मासिक व्यय पड़ रहा है ?

**Shri Datar:** I am not in a position to give it.

#### Scientific Civil Service

\*830. { **Shri †Bhakt Darshan:**  
**Shri D. C. Sharma:**

Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 114 on the 21st May, 1957 and state:

(a) whether the scheme for creating a Scientific Civil Service has since been finalised; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**The Deputy Minister of Education and Scientific Research (Shri M. M. Das):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**श्री भक्त दर्शन :** इस मामले में इतनी देरी होने का क्या कारण है ?

**Shri M. M. Das:** The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research has appointed a Committee under the chairmanship of Prof. Mahalanobis. That Committee has held three meetings up-to-date, but they have not yet finalised their recommendations.

**श्री भक्त दर्शन :** क्या इस कमेटी को अपनी रिपोर्ट देने के लिये कोई अवधि निर्धारित की गई है जब तक कि इसे अपनी रिपोर्ट दे देनी चाहिये ?

**Shri M. M. Das:** No, there is no time-limit within which the Committee should submit its report.

**Shri C. R. Narasimhan:** Is this Scientific Civil Service contemplated in the Five Year Plan and, if so, may I know whether there is any hope of something coming up within five years?

**Shri M. M. Das:** I am not sure—the information is not at my disposal whether this has been included in the Five Year Plan. But the Committee is trying its best to formulate its recommendations as soon as possible. It has already held three meetings.

**श्री भक्त दर्शन :** क्या इस सम्बन्ध में राज्य सरकारों से भी परामर्श किया जा रहा है और क्या किसी राज्य सरकार ने इस बारे में अपनी कोई राय दी है ?

**Shri M. M. Das:** The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research has appointed this Committee under the chairmanship of Prof. Mahalanobis. The Committee have to judge whether they will consult the State Governments or some institutions and so on.

#### Clash in Lansdowne (U.P.)

\*832. { **Shri A. K. †Gopalan:**  
**Shri T. C. N. Menon:**  
**Shri Warrior:**  
**Shri Kunhan:**  
**Shri Bhakt Darshan:**

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there was a clash between military and civilian Foot Ball teams in Lansdowne (U.P.);

(b) whether it is also a fact that the players of the Military team including officers beat up the referee and others; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to take action against the guilty officers?

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia):** (a) No. But there was some argument between one of the players of a Boys battalion team and the referee over the correctness of the referee's decision relating to a goal; and that led to a scuffle.

(b) A military Court of Inquiry investigated this incident; and the G.O.C., U.P. Area, has reported that on the information available to him no force was used by any of the service personnel. He has also reported that the referee of the match has lodged a complaint with the Police.

(c) The question does not arise.

**Shri A. K. Gopalan:** May I know whether it is a fact that Capt. Gurung, Capt. Lakhbir Singh and Jemadar Jeet Singh and others who were witnessing the match, ran into the field and also ordered the J.C.Os, when the civilians came, to beat them with their belts, and whether it is also a fact that the civilians sustained many injuries and some were admitted into the hospital?

**Sardar Majithia:** Well, Sir, regarding this incident, I should like to give a more detailed information, as the hon. Member has already asked for it. The incident, which happened on the 21st of May, 1957, followed an alleged scoring of goal by Boys battalion player Balwant Singh and the referee disallowing the same. As a result of slight altercation or some words exchanged between the referee and the Boy, he was ordered off the field, and at the same time the Boy was man-handled by the referee and the civilians came in, as a result of which the Boy sprained his left wrist. As a result of that, the Officers came in. They marched their troops off the field. They did not take part in the scuffle

at all. That, according to the report, has come out in the Court of Enquiry. But, as I have said, the Police is also seized of this, because the referee lodged a report with the police, and I suggest let the law take its ordinary course.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** May I know whether the Minister of Defence has received a complaint from the President of the District Sports Association of Lansdowne in which he has made definite allegations and, if so, whether this complaint has been sent for verification to the civil authorities also?

**Sardar Majithia:** I got intimation from the hon. Member from Tehri Garhwal, Shri Bhakt Darshan, and I did straightway order this Court of Enquiry to be held. Unfortunately, I would say that the civilians did not co-operate in this Court of Enquiry, because they never turned up. Although they were asked twice by the Officer Commandant of that Station personally and through the Deputy Commissioner over there, they never turned up, and that is why the information that is available to the Government is what I have given.

**Mr. Speaker:** All these are incidental; everywhere they behave like that.

**Shri A. K. Gopalan:** Sir, the Bar Association passed a resolution, there was a hartal by the schools and colleges, and they passed a resolution. It is not a small thing, where people belonging to different sections.....

**Mr. Speaker:** Young men, whether in military or civil service, are one and the same; they come from the same stock.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** The Bar Council passed a resolution.

**Shri A. K. Gopalan:** May I know whether it has come to the notice of the Government that a public meeting of the citizens was held, a hartal was observed in the town as well as in

the schools and colleges and that the Bar Association also passed a resolution and wanted an enquiry into the matter?

**Sardar Majithia:** Yes, it is a fact that a hartal took place. It has come to our notice. About the resolution of the Bar Association, at the moment I do not recollect having received any—but that is subject to correction.

**Mr. Speaker:** The whole matter is in the hands of the Police. What more shall we do? Shall we spend the whole hour on this?

**Shri Ranga:** After all, there is a parliamentary side. It is a conflict between civilians and the military. Have they taken any trouble to look into this matter specially, instead of leaving it to the ordinary course of the courts and the Police?

**Sardar Majithia:** As I have said, a Court of Enquiry was appointed straightway, and that Court of Enquiry gave its finding. It has come up, through normal channels, right up to the Ministry.

But the fact is, due to the non-participation of some civilians, that report is, I take it, one-sided. But as I said, the police is also seized of the situation and I suggest that the law takes its normal course.

**Mr. Speaker:** Next question.

**Shri Narayanankutty Menon:** You have suggested that you will allow one supplementary to each Member whose name is put down.

**Mr. Speaker:** I cannot stick on to that rule, when I am satisfied that the question has been answered sufficiently. Hon. Members will kindly see that the alternative is I need not put down their names. Sometimes 20 or 30 names are given; shall I ask all of them to put questions? Ordinarily I do allow the Members to put questions, but if I am satisfied that a question has been answered sufficiently, I proceed to the next question, notwithstanding the fact

that I have not been able to allow every Member, or even if there is only one Member, in whose name the question appears, to put questions.

**Shri Narayanankutty Menon:** On the basis of the answer given, I want to ask a question.

**Mr. Speaker:** But I feel differently.

**श्री भक्त दर्शन :** अध्यक्ष महोदय, क्षमा कीजिये, यह प्रश्न चूंकि मेरी कास्टिडुएन्सी से सम्बन्धित है, इसलिये मुझे कम से कम एक प्रश्न पूछने दिया जाये।

**अधक्ष महोदय :** मैं जानता हूँ, लेकिन सारा दश मेरो कास्टिडुएन्सी है।

**Mr. Speaker:** If they have got any particular information regarding this, the hon. Minister is a Minister of the democratic republic and he will certainly receive all representations. If there are some points, kindly write to him.

**Shri Narayanankutty Menon:** He said that the people did not co-operate; but my information is that the enquiry was conducted inside the military camp where the public were not allowed to come in.

**Mr. Speaker:** Is it a fact that enquiry was held in the military quarters and the public were not allowed to come in?

**Sardar Majithia:** I have categorically stated that the court of enquiry did ask the civilians to come and appear not once, but twice. At first they did not turn up and they were asked a second time, "Please turn up and give your evidence."

**Some Hon. Members rose—**

**Mr. Speaker:** We cannot go on pursuing this matter.

**श्री भक्त दर्शन :** क्या गवर्नमेंट के ध्यान में यह बात आई है कि इस घटना को हुये लगभग तीन महीने हो गये हैं और इस बीच में पूरी तरह इन्क्वायरी होना तो अलग, सारे बाजार को आउट आफ डाउंड्स कर



दिया गया है और सारे बाजार में "इको-नौमिक ब्लैक आउट" सा किया हुआ है। इस के बारे में क्या गवर्नमेंट कोई निर्णय देगी?

**Sardar Majithia:** It is true that it was declared out of bounds. But I have not got the latest information, but I can give this assurance that I will look into that question and I will see that it does not remain out of bounds any longer.

**Mr. Speaker:** This seems to be a small matter, but several hon. Members seem to be interested in this, and the whole town seems to be up against it. This kind of relationship between the military and the civilian population is not welcome. Next question.

#### Sepoy Clerks

\*833. { **Shri Warior:**  
**Shri Kunhan:**

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the services of sepoy clerks recruited during the post-war period are not counted for increments etc. on their appointment in civil services; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):**

(a) No. Completed years of military service rendered by an ex-serviceman on a basic pay equal to, or higher than, the minimum of the scale of pay of civil post to which he is appointed are counted for increments in fixing his initial pay.

(b) Does not arise.

**Shri Warior:** When havildar clerks are recruited, they are given these increments and promotion. Why is this discrimination in the case of sepoy clerks alone?

**Shri Datar:** It is not a discrimination. The hon. Member asked a question regarding sepoy clerks and that is why this answer has been given.

**Shri Warior:** The havildar clerks are also in the same category. But when they are transferred to civilian posts, they are given increments and all the facilities. Why are they denied to the sepoy clerks?

**Shri Datar:** We are following a uniform policy in this respect.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** A uniform policy of discrimination.

**Shri Kodiyan:** Is it a fact that the services of only those who are drawing a basic pay of Rs. 55 at the time of retrenchment from the military are taken into account in deciding the question of increment and seniority?

**Shri Datar:** What I have stated is quite clear. All the completed years of service are taken into account and the basic pay that they were drawing there is taken into account, in connection with the basic pay of the posts to which they are appointed. Either the same pay or a higher pay is given.

#### Estate Duty Act, 1953

\*834. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to amend the Estates Duty Act, 1953 according to the advice and recommendations of the Taxation Enquiry Commission; and

(b) what are the difficulties, if any, faced by Government in implementing the recommendations of the Taxation Enquiry Commission?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat):** (a) and (b). The matter is under consideration.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know whether it is a fact that in all other countries, the exemption limit is the lowest than in India?

**Shri B. R. Bhagat:** In some countries like the United Kingdom and other countries, it is higher than in India.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know whether complaints about the fixing of the rates of the estate duty and appeals against it have come to the notice of the Government?

**The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** I think we have dealt with 12,000 cases so far. I think there is only one case in which there is an appeal against valuation. So, it seems that nobody has treated the complaints as being serious enough as to take them on appeal.

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** In view of the fact that the target that was fixed and the calculations that were made about the collection of estate duty have not proved very much fruitful, because the actual collections were very small compared to the calculations, may I know whether Government propose to amend the Act in such a way as to start collection in kind as it is done in the United Kingdom, which is very popular?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** It is a suggestion for action, but I may tell the House that the expectations were based not merely on the possibility on which people die, which apparently has not now come to a pass, because the age of expectation on which we based our calculations is going up, but provision has not been made for gifts to be made by parties during their life-time, and even the recommendation of the Taxation Enquiry Commission that the period for *inter vivos* should be raised from 2 to 5 years would not cover the case so far as India is concerned, because it is a matter of common habit with our people that for the purpose of evading income-tax or lowering the slab, partitions or gifts take place even within the life-time of person concerned. The question of reviewing the working of the Act and remodel-

ling it is now engaging our attention and I do hope to be able to put some proposal before the House—that is my expectation—in the November session.

**Shri Mahanty:** May I know if the Government are reviewing from time to time the working of the Estate Duty Act and if so, whether it is a fact that in the meantime a number of millionaires have died in Bombay and Calcutta without leaving a single copper?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I may tell my hon. friend that one of the columns in newspapers in which I am interested is the obituary column and I have not found many millionaires die. But the question, as I said before, is being reviewed by us. There are a number of pitfalls in the legislation. As you see, we cannot take any action until six months elapse after the death of the person whose estate is to be subjected to taxation. The payment time allowed extends over a period of 8 years, and there are enough loopholes to see that the revenue is not forthcoming. That is a thing which we have to learn. It is a new Act which is implemented in a country where habits are different from the country where it has been experimented upon. That is why I said I propose to place before the House some proposals for modification of this particular enactment in the November session.

**Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha:** May I know whether there was a proposal to amend the Estate Duty Act? Is it because of the large number of tax evasions?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I have said that the yield is small and that presumably it is due to some form of gifts being made during the life-time of the person. You may call it evasion but legally, it cannot be said to be such.

**Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** May I know which of the States have agreed to enforce this Act to agricultural lands?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I believe all of them bar two had. I would not like to commit myself to any statement. If the hon. Member puts down a question, I shall answer.

**Shri Nagi Reddy:** In view of the fact that quite a number of millionnaires are dying having become paupers through gifts, would the Finance Minister consider very seriously the bringing in of a gifts tax too?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** It is a suggestion for action.

### Public Undertakings

\*835. { **Shri Mahanty:**  
**Shri Mohamod Imam:**

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether the industrial and commercial undertakings in the public sector, have been declaring profits;

(b) the total amount invested in such undertakings upto the 31st March, 1957; and

(c) the percentage of contribution from these sources to general revenue?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat):** The information has to be collected from the Ministries of the Government of India. The information so far received, is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 1]. A further statement will be laid on the table of the House as soon as possible.

**Shri Mahanty:** From the statement it appears that the investment contribution ratio is practically nil even though a huge sum of Rs. 97.31 crores have been invested up to 31-3-1957. May I know if the Government have evolved any machinery to investigate into this aspect of the question?

**The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** If the hon. Member would also go into the details given

in the statement, he will observe that quite a number of concerns which bear a high capital cost are in the stage of construction. One cannot, therefore, draw a conclusion that because the total amount involved is Rs. 97 crores and the return is not considerable, it is a matter for investigation. I would expect that within the next two years, the amount will be considerably augmented and still we will not be getting any return. It is unlikely that we would get any return on the investment until 1960-61.

**Shri Mahanty:** I have got two or three questions to ask. With all humility, I contest what the hon. Minister has just now stated about the statement because only two or three projects are under construction, the Iron and Steel projects. Otherwise, the rest are completed. My point in asking this question is, in countries where Governments are engaged in substantial commercial and industrial undertakings, a percentage from the profits from these undertakings goes to augment the public revenue to a substantial extent. The point at issue is, why concerns like the Hindustan Cables (Private) Ltd., or the Indian Airlines Corporation or the Eastern Shipping Corporation (Private) Ltd., Bombay, should not declare any profit.

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. Members will see—I do not know how many have seen—the list of undertakings. There are 23 or 25. It is not as if because one undertaking is profitable and declares a profit, another undertaking also, merely because it goes by the same English name undertaking, it must declare a profit. Am I to allow the Question Hour to be utilised for the purpose of going into the administration report of each undertaking? I merely gave an opportunity to this House to know this. If any hon. Member, thereafter, is interested in any particular undertaking, let him go into that undertaking. The hon. Minister will be ready if questions are then put in. Even then, the

Question Hour ought not to be used for discussing whether there ought to be a profit or not. There are other methods and if possible, we can spare time. I am not going to allow all the three questions.

**Shri Mahanty:** These are not the questions. I am coming to the question.

**Mr. Speaker:** If the hon. Member has not been able to come to his question, I am not going to allow them.

**Shri Mahanty:** You must listen to me with patience.

**Mr. Speaker:** I have heard.

**Shri Mahanty:** I will walk out.

**Mr. Speaker:** Oh yes. Do so.

**Shri Mahanty:** I protest against this kind of....

**Mr. Speaker:** Next question. I have already said .... (*Interruption from Shri Mahanty*).

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. The hon. Member cannot interrupt the proceedings of the House like that. Twenty-five undertakings have been given, from a hotel right up to Electronics. Not one category: all kinds of undertakings. Does he expect that the hon. Minister must answer about Ashoka Hotels and then go to Electronics in Bangalore? Then, there is the Nangal Fertiliser project. Is it humanly possible for the hon. Minister to say how each undertaking is working, why one undertaking is working profitably and the other is not? The Question Hour is not the occasion for that. He has elicited this information. He must take up individual undertakings and even then only for the purpose of eliciting information. If he wants to discuss, if he wants to give opinion and criticise the Government for not working properly, he must have other opportunities. There is no good protesting and trying to walk out.

**Shri Mahanty:** But, the point is you do not permit me even to offer an explanation at least. You anticipate my question. How can you anticipate my questions?

**Mr. Speaker:** There ought to be no preamble to questions. Each question must be clear, must refer to a single matter and should be as short and concise as possible. These I do not find in the question put by the hon. Member. What am I to do? I shall proceed to the next question.

(*At this stage, Shri Mahanty left the House.*)

### मक्खी-विरोधी सप्ताह

\*८३६. श्री भक्त दर्शन : क्या प्रति-  
रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पिछले कुछ सालों से भारत की सभी छावनियों में मक्खी-विरोधी व मच्छर-विरोधी सप्ताह मनाये जा रहे हैं ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो ऐसे सप्ताह मनाने के उद्देश्य में कहां तक सफलता मिली है ; और

(ग) सप्ताह मनाने पर प्रत्येक छावनी में प्रतिरक्षा मंत्रालय व छावनी बोर्ड द्वारा कितनी धन राशि व्यय की गई ?

प्रतिरक्षा मंत्री के सभासचिव (श्री फतेहसिंह राव गयकवाड़) : (क) जी हां ।

(ख) इस सप्ताह का मनाना बहुत लाभदायक हुआ है क्योंकि यह सैन्यदल, उनके कुटुम्बों और उस क्षेत्र में रहने वाले असैनिकों को मक्खियों और मच्छरों से जनित बीमारियों में निरोधक पग उठाने का अवसर प्रदान करता है ।

(ग) प्रतिरक्षा विभाग (स्टेशन हाइ-जीन आर्गैनाइजेशन) ने १९५५-५७ में १०८०.६८ रु० व्यय किया । कुछ छाव-

निम्नो द्वारा सर्च की गई राशि नीचे दी गई है :—

आवनी बोर्ड	६०
भागरा	५००.००
धम्बाला	२००.००
डगशै	६१.००
डल्हौजी	५०.००
देबलावी	५०.००
फिरोजपुर	१००.००
फतेहगढ़	८५६
लैन्सडाउन	२००.००
मथुरा	२६०.००
पूना	२००.००
कुल	१,६५६.५६

Some Hon. Members: English answer.

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Defence (Shri Fatesingh-rao Gaekwad): (a) Yes

(b) The observance of this Week has been very useful in so far as it affords opportunities to troops, their families as well as the civilians in the area, to be able to take steps for the prevention of fly and mosquito-borne diseases.

(c) The Ministry of Defence (Station Hygiene Organisation) spent Rs. 1080.68 during 1955-57. The amount spent by some of the Cantonments is given below:—

Cantt. Board, Agra	Rs. 500.00
" " Ambala	Rs. 200.00
" " Dagshai	Rs. 61.00
" " Dalhousie	Rs. 50.00
" " Deolali	Rs. 50.00
" " Ferozepore	Rs. 100.00
" " Fatehgarh	Rs. 8.56
" " Lansdowne	Rs. 200.00
" " Mathura	Rs. 290.00
" " Poona	Rs. 200.00
Total:—	Rs. 1,659.56

श्री भक्त दर्शन : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस सप्ताह का नाम एंटी फ्लाई और एंटी मास्कीटो यानी मक्खी और मच्छर विरोधी सप्ताह क्यों रखा गया है ? इन्हीं दो चीजों को खासतौर से क्यों चुना गया है ? और इस सप्ताह का नाम "स्वच्छता सप्ताह" क्यों नहीं रखा जाता ?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): The fact is that this week is intended to bring to the attention of the civilians and also the enrolled personnel the particular diseases which are mosquito and fly-borne and which cause menace. Apart from these, other things also, hygiene, etc., come in. This is a week which is meant to get public attention concentrated on these things.

श्री भक्त दर्शन क्या गवर्नमेंट के ध्यान में यह बात आ रही है कि जैसे जैसे यह सप्ताह आगे चलता जा रहा है इसमें जनता का उत्साह घटता जा रहा है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या इसको और अधिक आकर्षक बनाने के लिये कोई हिदायत दी जा रही है ताकि अगले साल से यह ज्यादा सफल हो ?

Sardar Majithia: It is already gaining momentum I think it will gather more.

Shri V. P. Nayar: The hon. Minister has just now said that over a thousand rupees have been spent on this I want to know whether this amount has been spent for the purchase of insecticides to be used or for getting mechanical contrivances for the destruction of flies.

Sardar Majithia: This is entirely separate. This is only for propaganda—showing slides etc.

श्री लक्ष्मणलाल : मेरा सुझाव यह है कि "मक्खी विरोधी और मच्छर-विरोधी" के साथ "बूढ़ा-विरोधी" और जोड़ दिया जाय।

श्री लक्ष्मी : कैन्टोनमेंट्स में बूढ़े नहीं होते।

Mr. Speaker: In another important country all this has been tried and there is no ghost of mosquitos or flies. All this seems to be normal. In our sister country it has been tried. But if the hon. Members want to keep all the flies in their own houses I have no objection.

#### Tata-Trombay Thermal Station

\*337. Shri Bibhuti Mishra: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are contemplating to raise loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development for the Tata-Trombay Thermal Station Project;

(b) if so, whether any agreement has been signed in this regard; and

(c) what would be the nature of aid?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. E. Bhagat): (a) to (c). An agreement has been signed with the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development on the 29th May, 1957, under which a loan of \$9.8 million has been sanctioned to the Tata Hydro-Electric Companies for the Trombay Thermal Station Project.

श्री बिभूति मिश्र : सरकार इस कर्ज से कौन कौन सा सामान लेगी ?

श्री ड० रा० भगत : बिजली उत्पादन करने के लिये ज़िम सामान की ज़रूरत पड़ेगी, वह सब लिया जायेगा ।

सेट अफ़र तिहू : यह लोन किस इन्स्ट्रुमेंट पर और किस शर्तों पर लिया गया है ?

श्री ड० रा० भगत : इन्स्ट्रुमेंट ५-५/८ परसेट है और दूसरी शर्त यह है कि यह कर्ज भठारह साल के लिये लिया गया है ।

#### Oil and Natural Gas Commission

\*338 Shrimati Tarakeshwari Sinha: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Oil and Natural Gas Commission have submitted their Plan of work for 1957-58 to Government; and

(b) if so, the important features thereof?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) Not yet. The programme of work for 1957-58 is being drawn up by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission, and is likely to be finalized in the next week.

(b) The Commission is expected to continue Geological and Geophysical prospecting in the Punjab, Jaisalmer, Cambay and Cutch areas and it is likely that similar investigations would be undertaken in selected areas in U.P. and Assam. Deep drilling would be continued in Jawalamukhi and Structural Drilling in Punjab, Cambay and Cutch.

Shrimati Tarakeshwari Sinha: May I know in how many places such surveys have been conducted and completed and in how many cases the prospecting of oil has started and with what result?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Survey for oil is a continuous process. It has been going on in selected areas in Punjab Jaisalmer area of Rajasthan, Cambay and Cutch area. As soon as some definite conclusions are arrived at as a result of geological and other surveys, further detailed prospecting is undertaken. We are undertaking a number of investigations with regard to search for oil in several parts of the country.

Shri Kasiwal: I understand that the aero-magnetic survey in the Jaisalmer area has been completed but further survey is being taken up. May I know what further steps Government propose to take in this area for oil prospecting?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The aero-magnetic survey conducted by the Canadian group pin-pointed certain areas where suitable thickness of sediments have been located with a view to further search for oil. Now, in the course of these aero-magnetic

surveys, geological surveys and investigations were also undertaken. They are still going on. We have just adjourned for the monsoon. Immediately after the monsoon we shall resume our geological survey and if suitable results are confirmed then we might resort to structural or preliminary drilling there.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** May I know whether Government will take any steps to see that a programme for a particular year is finalized before the year commences as we find there was a great delay in the finalisation of the programme for the year 1957-58?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** I did not follow the question.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** It is more than six months since the year began and I was told that the programme is being finalized next week. Will Government take some steps to see that the programme for a particular year is finalized before the commencement of that year?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** I am sorry there is a misunderstanding about it. The programme is already there. It is being constantly reviewed. As we go on getting further results the final programme of the entire country's survey and prospecting needs a little modification and that modification has not yet been finalized. There can be no finality about these programmes. They are modified from place to place and from time to time.

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** May I know whether the Government will give us any idea that after the completion of the surveys a phasing of the programme will be done and, if so, how this phasing of the programme will be done?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** Our policy is to start searching for oil at a number of places for in that case if we fail at one place we might succeed at another and so we will not get disappointed. We are just now engaged in oil prospecting in four or five places. Regarding the phasing of programmes, survey and prospecting are

being included at these four or five places—a sort of continuous work so that if we fail at one place, we might succeed at another place.

**Shri Jaipal Singh:** The hon. Minister stated that Bihar was one of the States where prospecting with regard to oil was made. May I know whether Government are completely satisfied that the geological survey in regard to South Bihar is final and there will be no further prospecting in South Bihar area?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** So far as South Bihar is concerned, we have not so far got any evidence which might encourage us to go there in search of oil.

**Shri Viswanatha Reddy:** May I know whether the exploration for oil conforms generally to the recommendations made in the report of the Soviet experts submitted last year or is there any change? If there is such a change, may I know the reason for making it?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** The programme is constantly reviewed from time to time and as we go on getting more information there has been some departure from the proposals that were put before us by the Russian group.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** In view of the fact that there is hardly two-three inches of rain in the Jaisalmer area, is there any justification to postpone the work because of the monsoon?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** There is intense heat also.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** That is the best time.

#### Andaman Education Board

\*839 **Shri Kodiyar:** Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state

(a) whether the Andaman Education Board is affiliated to any Board in the Indian Union, and

(b) if not, whether the matter relating to its affiliation is under consideration?



The Minister of State in the Ministry of education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) There is only one Government High School and this is at present affiliated to the Board of Secondary Education, West Bengal

(b) Does not arise

Shri Kodiyar: May I know whether there has been any recommendation or any demand from the representatives of the people of Andamans to affiliate the Andaman Education Board to the Education Board at Ajmer?

Dr K. L. Shrimall: Yes, there was a demand to affiliate the High School to the Central Board of Education.

Shri Kodiyar: May I know what is the medium of instruction in the schools in Andamans?

Dr K. L. Shrimall: I think it is Hindi. But this is subject to correction.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Since the majority of the people are the children of the parents from South India who have settled there, may I know why this school is being affiliated to the West Bengal Government?

Dr K. L. Shrimall: The medium of instruction is Hindi. Therefore the proposal is that it should now be affiliated to the Central Board of Education and we have already written to the administration to get it affiliated.

Shri Tangamani: I understand that the medium of education in this Government High School in the Andamans is Bengali and Hindi. In view of the fact that more than 50 per cent of the population in the Andamans is Tamil-speaking, will Tamil also be introduced as a medium of instruction?

Mr Speaker: Is there a proposal to have languages other than Hindi?

Dr K. L. Shrimall: No

Shri Tangamani: There is already Bengali there

Shri V. P. Nayar: The Minister has stated that there is one high school in

the Andamans. May I know what percentage of children of school-going age have facilities for education in the Andamans now?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: The hon. Member is going beyond this question. He may ask a separate question.

#### Tax on Agricultural Income

\*840 { Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:  
Shri Vajpayee:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have suggested to State Governments replacement of land revenue by an agricultural income-tax, and

(b) if so, the reactions of the State Governments?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise

Dr Ram Subhag Singh: Is it the view of the Finance Minister that the land revenue system should be substituted by an agricultural income-tax system, and if so, may I know whether he has approached his other colleagues in the Cabinet to approach the State Governments for introducing this system?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: That will not be a correct representation of my views. Anyway, my views are my personal views. They have nothing to do with the Cabinet or with the Government of India. I might have some academic views on this subject, and I might have mentioned them somewhere. And it has not been correctly reported. I did not ever say that the land revenue system can be completely done away with and agricultural income-tax can take its place. There are many other things that have to come in between. Perhaps, the hon. Member will grant that even a Minister might be a student and could have certain personal views which might even be academic.



**Shri Nagi Reddy:** May I know whether Government have recommended to the State Governments to immediately enact agricultural income-tax Acts and proceed with this?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I require notice.

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** Is it not a fact that agricultural income-tax will be linked up with agricultural output, and, therefore, it will give more revenue to Government? If so, may I know whether Government propose to invite all the State Government representatives and discuss this matter with them so as to get more revenue from the country?

**Mr. Speaker:** That is a suggestion for action.

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** I just wanted to know his opinion.

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon Members have got various suggestions. Shall I use the Question Hour for that?

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** May I know whether the Minister is aware that some of the State Governments are already going ahead with this agricultural income-tax?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Yes. I believe about eight of them have agricultural income-tax, and before the States' reorganisation took place, another four had this agricultural income-tax.

#### Advances against Foodgrains

**\*841 Shri Jadhav:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount advanced by the scheduled banks on foodgrains since the directive issued by Reserve Bank of India in June, 1957; and

(b) how does it compare with the advances on foodgrains prior to the directive?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat):** (a) and (b). Information about the amount advanced by the banks during a particular period is not available, but if the Hon'ble Member intends to know the

level of advances both prior to and after the issue of the directive, it may be stated that the advances stood at about Rs. 43 crores on May 31, 1957, at Rs. 40 crores on June 28, 1957 and are estimated to have come down to Rs. 35 crores on July 12, 1957.

**Shri Jadhav:** May I know the amount of advance that can be made to an individual for the purchase of rice and other foodgrains?

**The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** Advance to individuals? I must ask the individual banks about it.

**Shri Jadhav:** It is not a question of an individual who deals in these things. The banks concerned...

**Mr. Speaker:** Shri T. K. Chaudhuri.

**Shri T. K. Chaudhuri:** Have Government any idea about the maximum amount advanced by the scheduled banks against foodgrains?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** The figures in regard to the advances have been given generally by my colleague, though, I am afraid, the figures are about a month old. We have had estimates since then. Actually, it takes about four weeks for us to get the correct figures. But we get forecasts earlier. The estimates have indicated that the advances are coming down rapidly.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member wanted to know whether any ceiling has been fixed for advances against foodgrains, or the amount is unlimited, and whatever the bank may like to give can be given.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** So far as each bank is concerned?

**Mr. Speaker:** Yes, in respect of the various banks. Has any limit been set by Government or not?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** The ceiling that is fixed is in relation to the advances that they made last year. There could be no absolute ceiling. The ceilings are fixed in relation to their advances during the previous year. That is why I have

mentioned that from the estimates that I have seen, they were well below the advances given on foodgrains about this time last year

**Shri R. Ramanathan Chettiar:** What is the amount of advance for paddy?

**Mr. Speaker:** Has the Minister got the break-up?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I have not got the break-up foodgrain-wise

**Shri Ranga:** Is it not a fact that right up to the middle of April or the end of April, advances are continuously given to the peasants in order to enable them to pay their taxes and to meet their other expenses, and from that time onwards, the repayments begin, and therefore, the advances go down?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** That sums up the position fairly accurately

**Shri Sadhan Gupta:** May I know whether there is any machinery to see to it that the advances under 'Foodgrains' are not disguised by the scheduled banks as advances under other heads? If so, what is that machinery?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** The human mind devises quite a lot of methods by which it can get over certain limits fixed by the Reserve Bank. The point that has been mentioned by my hon friend, namely that you may get advances for some other type of goods and use them for foodgrains is one of the methods of evasion. As to whether there is any machinery to deal with it bank-wise, I am afraid, the Reserve Bank is not in a position to deal with it effectively in that way. But they go upon individual advances given by individual banks and watch the position generally. But we do hope that before long, we shall be able to keep a little more check on these advances. But to reach the position envisaged by my hon friend opposite, I think it will take some time.

**Shri Sivasan Singh:** In view of the rising prices of foodgrains and the tendency to hoard which is there be-

cause of these bank advances, will Government contemplate the prohibiting of advances against foodgrains?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Prohibiting further advances? Well, this is slack season now. I do not think any fresh advances are being made now. But the advances that have been made will have to be reduced by asking for more margins. But, as you know, and as the hon Member knows, it is not always possible to get the debtor to return the money quickly. You can only put the screw on, and the screw acts rather slowly.

**Shri Dasappa:** What were the advances during the corresponding period of last year, that is, 1956?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** According to the figures given by my colleague, the advances during the period mentioned by him are slightly in excess, about two per cent in excess, of the advances during the corresponding period last year. The directives given by the Reserve Bank to revise the margins have not been brought into effect. Since then, I find that the advances are below the advances given last year.

#### Slum Clearance

\*843 **Shri Radha Raman:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state

(a) whether the team constituted under the Committee on Plan Projects for the evaluation of selected building projects has submitted any report on the slum clearance schemes of States, and

(b) if so, its main recommendations?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat):** (a) No

(b) Does not arise

**Shri Radha Raman:** May I know whether the Planning Commission has set up an organisation to examine schemes for slum clearance work, to call for schemes from the various States and to allocate money for those schemes?

**The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** Does the hon. Member mean an organisation apart from this Committee on Plan Projects?

**Shri Radha Raman:** Yes.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** There is a Housing Panel attached to the Planning Commission, which amongst other things goes into this question of slum clearance.

**Shri Radha Raman:** What do the words 'building projects' actually mean and what is the intention of Government by these building projects?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** They are buildings undertaken by Government.

**Shri R. Ramanathan Chettiar:** Are Government considering the application from the Corporation of Madras for slum clearance work in Madras City?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I believe a sum of about Rs. 1 crore has been sanctioned recently and Madras got a fair share of it—somewhere about Rs 16 lakhs.

**Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:** May I know if it is a fact that the West Bengal Government has also submitted a scheme to the Finance Department for some money for slum clearance in Calcutta and also in the small district towns?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I would like to have the question repeated.

**Mr. Speaker:** Every hon. Member will ask about his or her State. It need not be answered. Can I allow each hon. Member to ask questions about his or her State?

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** Has any target been prescribed as to the work of slum clearance, and the portion of it to be cleared in the Second Plan period?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** The targets are mentioned in the Plan but these things are undergoing changes from time to time. Government at

the present moment is deeply concerned about this question of slum clearance and the provision of houses for low income groups. Maybe that when the plans are complete, the targets might change. We are now concentrating on using the money entirely for this purpose, that is, if allocations made under different heads are not used for one purpose, they may be used for another. The Planning Commission is now seized of the matter and it is quite likely that slum clearance might get a bigger push than it had before.

**Mr. Speaker:** If the hon. Minister has got information relating to West Bengal, he may kindly give it.

**Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:** Thank you.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Broadly, I might tell the hon. Member that I have been in close touch with the Chief Minister of West Bengal on this matter, and I have kept my colleague, the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply informed about whatever conversations I have had. I do expect that my colleague in dealing with this question very shortly when his Demands come up, will be able to give an adequate answer which, I hope, will satisfy hon. Members of the House that the Government of India is trying to do its very best in this regard.

#### Earthquake in Assam

\*844. **Shri Raghunath Singh:** Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on 2nd July, 1957 the whole of Assam was rocked by a severe earthquake tremor; and

(b) if so, its cause and effect?

**The Deputy Minister of Education and Scientific Research (Shri M. M. Das):** (a) It is a fact that almost the whole of Assam was rocked by an earthquake tremor on the 2nd July but the tremor was of moderate intensity.

(b) It is presumed that the earthquake was due to slight disturbance in the earth's crust in the foot hills of Himalayas in Assam which is regarded as unstable region in India. Except for very minor damage to residential buildings at Silcher, no loss of life or property was reported from any place.

**Shri Ranga:** In view of the unstable character of that area and its susceptibility to earthquake, are any steps taken to advise the Assam Government to see that in their plans for house construction, either for Government or for the general public, anti-earthquake devices are being adopted?

**Shri M. M. Das:** Experience from the long past has already taught the people how to build their houses in unstable regions.

**Shri Ranga:** That does not help—dependence upon traditional knowledge.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member wants to know if any of the scientific methods that have been discovered are being used or propagated in that area and advice given.

**Shri M. M. Das:** I have got no information.

#### Road Research Institute

\*845. **Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state whether there is any channel for imparting information regarding the results achieved in the Road Research Institute to the areas covered by Community Projects and National Extension Service Blocks?

**The Deputy Minister of Education and Scientific Research (Shri M. M. Das):** Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Community Development are represented on the Executive Council of the Central Road Research Institute and take steps to transmit to State Governments such results achieved in the Institute as are of use for rural road development programme under the Community Project and National Extension Service Blocks.

**Shri Jhulan Sinha:** In view of the importance of road construction and maintenance in villages, are any steps taken to transmit the results of researches conducted at the Road Research Institute, Delhi, to the villages, for construction of pucca roads with local material without cement and concrete, and also for improving the technique of the bullock cart which does the most damage to the roads there?

**Shri M. M. Das:** So far as low cost techniques are concerned, we have a representative of the Community Projects Ministry on the Executive Council of the Road Research Institute. As a member of the Executive Council, he is fully aware of the developments that have taken place. Moreover, a brochure has been published by the Director of the Institute and it has been sent to the Community Projects Administration, and they have been asked to distribute this brochure to the Development Commissioner of different States, so that the States may know what improvements have been made in road construction.

**Shri C. R. Narasimhan:** Can the Minister give concrete instances where the Community Projects and National Extension Services departments have been benefited by the results of the research carried out by the Institute?

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** Concrete is not used!

**Shri M. M. Das:** The particular method of construction, soil stabilisation with soft aggregates, has been tried out extensively in Punjab and 250 miles of road have been constructed according to it in Punjab. This has withstood the test of time.

**Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman:** In view of the very poor road conditions in the delta areas of the river Cauveri in Tanjore district, will Government consider sending a team to study conditions there?

**Shri M. M. Das:** The Road Research Institute has got a scheme according to which pilot projects will be taken up in every State. A small length of road will be constructed according to

the new method in every State. We are asking for the co-operation of the States in this matter.

### Disciplinary Proceedings

\*846. **Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state whether any action has been taken by Government to simplify the procedure for disciplinary proceedings of civilians in Defence Installations as a result of the decision of three High Courts that they are governed by Article 310 and not by 311(2) of the Constitution?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Defence (**Shri Fatesinghrao Gaekwad**): No.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Is Government considering the question of amending articles 310 and 311(3) of the Constitution to allow more rights to civilian employees to get their demands redressed in courts of law?

**Shri Fatesinghrao Gaekwad:** No.

### Seats in Engineering Colleges

\*848. { **Shri Subbiah Ambalam:**  
**Shri P. R. Patel:**

Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

*Southern region* (I think that in cludes Madras also):

College	Present sanctioned admission capacity	Proposed admission capacity	Additional seats available
Guindy Engineering College	110	250	140
Engineering College, Osmania University	90	230	140
Government Engineering College, Bangalore	120	210	90
College of Engineering Travancore University	100	210	110

These are the recommendations of the Ghosh-Chandrakant Committee, so far as the Southern zone is concerned.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** May I know if applications for increase in the number of seats in colleges have to be approved by the All India Council for Technical Education or by the various regional committees under that Council?

(a) whether applications have been received by Government from the Principals of different Engineering Colleges seeking permission to increase the number of seats for admission;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government; and

(c) the names of Engineering Colleges in Bombay State which were granted and those which were refused such permission?

The Deputy Minister of Education and Scientific Research (**Shri M. M. Das**): (a) to (c). A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 2.]

**Shri Subbiah Ambalam:** What are the names of the institutions in Madras State which have asked for increase of admission capacity, which of them have been recommended by the Ghosh-Chandrakant Committee and which of them have been accepted and implemented by Government?

**Shri M. M. Das:** Although this particular question does not relate to the Ghosh-Chandrakant Committee Report, I have got the figures with me so far as Madras is concerned.

**Shri M. M. Das:** There is no legal compulsion upon these institutions that they should have sanction from the Government of India which is advised by the All India Council for Technical Education. The Central Government comes into the picture because it gives grants for such development. So the institutions try to take the sanction of the Central Gov-

ernment so that they may get the grants. Moreover, the All India Council for Technical Education tries to maintain a certain standard all over India. So, it is also necessary in the interests of the institutions themselves that they should get sanction for increase in their admission capacity from the All India Council of Technical Education.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Sir, there is question No. 886 regarding Strike by Delhi School Teachers. I request you to have this question answered in view of the importance of the matter.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member must have asked the Minister if he be willing to answer the same earlier. The first hour is non-official and the other hours are official. If the Minister is willing to answer, I have no objection.

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali):** I am making a statement.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Notice of this question was given long ago and now the Calling Attention motion has been accepted today.

**Mr. Speaker:** I do not know; it is printed.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** It is printed in the list—this calling attention notice, from five Members. The question was given notice of a fortnight ago. Which of the two should be given preference?

**Dr. K. L. Shrimali:** I can answer the question tomorrow; but, I am making the statement today.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** It is on the list.

**Dr. K. L. Shrimali:** If the hon. Member is anxious, I am prepared to answer the question just now.

**Mr. Speaker:** If the question is not reached what does the hon. Member want the Minister to do?

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** He can read it.

**Mr. Speaker:** He will have to take his turn. When it does not come, it will be placed on the Table.

### Short Notice Questions and Answers

#### Pakistan Note to Security Council

S.N.Q. No. 12.	{	Shri Radha Raman:
		Shri Shree Narayan Das:
		Shri D. C. Sharma:
		Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:
		Shri Raghunath Singh:

Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the representative of Pakistan Government in New York has submitted a note to the President of Security Council making certain allegations against India regarding Kashmir issue;

(b) if so, the nature and contents of the note and whether the President of the Security Council has addressed any communication to the Government of India in this regard; and

(c) if so, what is the reaction of the Government and whether Government have sent any reply thereto?

**The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** (a) Yes, he has addressed a letter to the President of the Security Council.

(b) The Pakistan Permanent Representative's letter states that the Government of India have recently settled a large number of non-Muslims who are not residents of the State of Jammu and Kashmir, in certain districts of the Jammu Province. Further, that evacuee properties have been allotted to non-Muslim settlers of non-Kashmiri origin. Copy of Pakistan Permanent Representative's letter to the President, Security Council was received by our Permanent Representative in New York as a U.N. document in general circulation.

(c) The allegations contained in the Pakistani note are untrue and without any basis. According to the laws in force in the Jammu & Kashmir State

no non-resident of Jammu & Kashmir can become a resident of that State and have the privileges appertaining to such residents. No evacuee property has been allotted to non-residents of Jammu & Kashmir. Evacuee properties have been allotted to refugees from the Pakistan-occupied areas of Jammu & Kashmir State who came over in large numbers and had to be resettled by the Jammu & Kashmir Government. These refugees were old residents of the State and were thus qualified as such.

Our Permanent Representative in New York has taken action to point out the false and baseless nature of these allegations to the President of the Security Council, and copy of his letter has been circulated as a UN document. A copy is placed on the Table of the House [See Appendix III, annexure No 3].

**Shri Radha Raman:** May I know whether the Government of India is satisfied that these false allegations which are made by the Permanent Representative of Pakistan against the Government of India have not received any credence by the Members of the Security Council and whether the document which is circulated by the Security Council to its Members has received any cognizance by the permanent Representative of Pakistan Government?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** How am I to enter into minds of the various Members of the Security Council of the UN? It is beyond me. All I can say is that the facts are straight, clear and simple and any person who takes the trouble to understand them is bound to be convinced that the Pakistan Government's allegation is utterly wrong.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know if the rules which governed the question of domicile of the inhabitants of Jammu and Kashmir when the Maharaja was there still hold and whether according to them no non-resident of Jammu and Kashmir can acquire any property there?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** Yes, Sir. They hold. There might have been minor modifications. But, it is really a continuation of those rules. For instance, if I may say so, if I wanted a piece of land in Jammu and Kashmir State I cannot get it although I have some distant connection with Jammu and Kashmir.

श्री राधा रमण: मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि आजाद काश्मीर से अब तक गितने मोहमेडन्य भाग कर आये हैं, और यहाँ पर उनकी आबादी क्या है।

श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू: मैं उनका ठीक नम्बर तो नहीं बतला सकता, लेकिन मेरा खयाल है कि बाकी तादाद मेहेरा फेरी हुई है। उधर के इधर आये हैं और इधर के उधर गये हैं, आज नहीं, नौ दस वर्षों से। शुरू में काफी लोग गए थे, और मेरा खयाल है कि कम से कम एक या सवा लाख लोग उधर से इधर आये होंगे शायद ज्यादा। और हममें कोई सब थोड़े ही वहाँ आबाद किये गये हैं। हिन्दुस्तान के और हिस्सों में भी फैल गये और कुछ वहाँ हैं।

**Shri Tyagi:** Have the Government protested against the term 'India-held zone' used by the Pakistan representative in his communication?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** To whom exactly does Shri Tyagi want us to protest?

**Shri Tyagi:** They are using the term 'India-held zone' for Jammu and Kashmir in all their communications as if it is forcibly held. Every time they use this in their official communications. Have we protested against this term?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** That is what I enquired. Does Mr Tyagi wish us to protest to the Pakistan Government or to anybody else?

**Shri Tyagi:** To the UNO. It is in their documents that the term has been used.



**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** In our documents to the U.N.O. we have often pointed out that this is a false description and a reversal of what really has happened

**Shri Tyagi:** I hope we have not accepted this description

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** Of course, not

#### Reduction in currency Backing

S.N.Q.  
No. 13. { **Shri Nausahir Bharucha.**  
**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha.**  
**Shri Shree Narayan Das.**  
**Shri Kasliwal:**  
**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh.**

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state

(a) whether the latest published statistics of the Reserve Bank of India disclose that there was a loss of Rs 18.36 crores of foreign exchange during the week ending August 2,

(b) if so, the reasons for this large deficit,

(c) whether this drawal has caused the amount of foreign securities in the Issue Department of the Reserve Bank of India to be reduced below the figure of Rs. 400 crores prescribed in section 33(2) of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934,

(d) whether the Reserve Bank of India has sought the permission of Government to reduce the statutory minimum reserve of foreign securities to Rs 300 crores from Rs 400 crores which is the minimum required under the Reserve Bank of India Act and suggested an amendment of the Act; and

(e) if so what action Government have taken or propose to take in the matter?

**The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The reason for this large loss of exchange is that the Government of

Burma have drawn Rs. 10 crores out of the loan granted to them last year and have remitted this sum to London.

(c) Yes, Sir. The amount of foreign securities in the Issue Department of the Reserve Bank of India stood on August 2 at Rs 375.52 crores

(d) and (e) The Reserve Bank of India approached the Government of India who have, in terms of section 37 of the Reserve Bank of India Act, permitted the Bank to reduce, for six months, the amount of foreign securities required to be held in the Issue Department to a figure below Rs 400 crores but at no time less than Rs 300 crores

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** In answer to part (b), the hon Minister has stated that Burma has withdrawn the loan. May I know whether it is a fact that the Government of Burma failed to draw the loan during the stipulated time and if so, may I know the reason why we agreed to the recent withdrawal when we ourselves are very much hardpressed in the matter of foreign exchange?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** It is a fact that the Burma Government did not draw on the original loan granted to them. But, there was a subsequent agreement by which the loan agreement is renewed. It is under this second agreement that the Burma Government had drawn this loan.

#### RE ADJOURNMENT MOTION

**Raja Mahendra Pratap (Mathura):** I have given notice of an adjournment motion. (Interruptions)

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. Adjournment motion? I have already ruled it out. Even otherwise, the adjournment motions come only after questions.

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** According to the United Nations report released recently, the Indian rupee has emerged a much stronger currency—stronger than the dollar itself. In view of this what prevents



the Government to amend the Reserve Bank of India Act to reduce further this reserve of Rs. 300 crores?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** It is a suggestion for action and naturally the Government will take note of any suggestion that comes from any hon. Member of this House.

**Shri Naushir Bharucha:** How many weeks' relief does the Government hope to get by reducing the foreign securities held by the Issue Department—six weeks? If so, what happens further?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Wait and see.

**Shri Kasliwal:** In reply to part (d) of the question, the hon. Minister has said that the Government had permitted the Reserve Bank to reduce the foreign securities from Rs 400 to Rs 300 crores. I understand that there are many countries who have practically no such reserves—Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Philippines, Israel and many other countries. May I know why under these circumstances the Government is still insisting on a minimum of foreign reserves?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** It is undoubtedly true that there are many experts who think that this type of fiduciary backing—namely, foreign securities—as against the note issue is a fiction which is being continued merely because of, what may be called, traditional inertia of Governments. But I am not at the present moment inclined to dismiss it lightly because there might be some consequences arising out of any precipitate action. All these matters will undoubtedly be taken into consideration from time to time.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** To what extent has our foreign exchange position been affected by the gold and diamond smuggling in the country?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** To the extent that there has been gold and diamond smuggling.

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** In view of the fact that during the last six or seven months, letters of credit have been opened in various places

for large amounts, may I know what is the present commitment in regard to foreign exchange that we will have to fulfil?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** It opens up an issue which is difficult for me to discuss now. I do hope that the hon. Members will give me an opportunity of discussing this matter either when the Finance Bill or the Demands of the Finance Ministry come up. But, I would assure the hon. Member that the level of letters of credit has been more or less the same for quite some time and the diminution that we would like to see in it has not yet appeared. We have not altogether given up our hopes. At the present moment, our estimates of commitments entered into between now and 1960 is of the order of Rs 900 crores both on private and public account and we expect another Rs 300 crores of commitments would be entered into for implementing the core of the Plan. That would represent the normal amount of commitments that we would have to shoulder. As against it, some part of these commitments are covered by credits we have our normal earnings and normal outgo. The remedy might lie in our earnings being increased and the outflow being reduced.

**Shri Dasappa:** May I know whether these foreign holdings referred to include our subscriptions to the World Bank?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** No, Sir. They do not, I think, add to our foreign securities in the Issue Department any other holdings that we have anywhere excepting in the nature of securities which are shown in the Issue Department's accounts.

**Shri T. K. Chaudhuri:** Are we to understand from the statement that the hon. Minister just now made that because of the difficult foreign exchange position we are retaining only the core of the Plan and the rest of the Plan will be pruned? Is that the policy of the Government?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** My reference to the core of the Plan is only incidental; it is not fundamental so far as this question is concerned. The fundamental aspect of our difficulties might be dealt with at the appropriate time.

#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

##### Public Undertakings Accounts

\*831. **Shri Shree Narayan Das:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1603-A on the 11th September, 1956, and state:

(a) whether Government have since examined the question of adequate and proper accounting and financial reporting by all public undertakings and has evolved suitable standard forms of accounting for different categories of public enterprises;

(b) if so, the important features of such standard forms; and

(c) the extent to which they have been made applicable so far?

**The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** (a) to (c). Government consider that a broad pattern of accounts is available already in the case of all public undertakings and that, subject to such improvement as may be found desirable from time to time in the light of experience, no further standardization is necessary.

##### जीवन बीमा निगम

\*८४२. श्री अविनाश सिंह : क्या वित्त मंत्री २४ मई, १९५७ के ताराकित प्रश्न संख्या ३४७ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या जीवन बीमा निगम द्वारा नियुक्त की गई वरिष्ठ सेवा समिति ने अपना प्रतिवेदन प्रस्तुत कर दिया है ;

(ख) क्या उस पर कोई निर्णय किया गया है ; और

(ग) यदि हाँ, तो वे निर्णय क्या हैं ?

**वित्त उपमंत्री (श्री व० रा० नयत) :**

(क) से (ग). भारत सरकार द्वारा नियुक्त जीवन बीमा निगम सम्बन्धी वरिष्ठ सेवा समिति ने अपनी रिपोर्ट दे दी है। इस समय उस पर विचार किया जा रहा है।

##### Welfare of Tribal People

\*847. **Shri Ganpati Ram:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken in the Second Five Year Plan period so far to improve the lot of Tribals and Scheduled Castes in the country; and

(b) whether Government are considering ways and means so as not to allow the lapse of money allotted in the budget for tribal welfare in 1957-58?

**The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva):** (a) The Government of India gave grants-in-aid to the State Governments to the tune of Rs 7.18 crores during 1956-57 and have so far sanctioned Rs 7.91 crores during the current financial year for the welfare of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes

(b) Yes, Sir

##### Conference of Commonwealth Air Chiefs of Staff

\*849. **Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Conference of Commonwealth Air Chiefs of Staff is to be held in London;

(b) if so, when;

(c) the objects of the Conference;

(d) whether India has received any invitation to participate in it; and

(e) if so, the composition of the Indian contingent which will take part in the Conference?

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On 27th and 28th August 1957.

(c) To provide an opportunity for exchange of views on air force subjects of common interest.

(d) Yes.

(e) The Chief of Air Staff and a senior Air Force officer.

#### **Preservation of Monuments in Assam**

**\*850. Shri Amjad Ali:** Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) the amount that has been sanctioned for expenditure in connection with the preservation of monuments of national importance in Assam for the year 1957-58; and

(b) whether the amount is separately earmarked for each of the monuments to be preserved?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali):** (a) Rs. 27,050.

(b) Yes, Sir.

#### **Recruitment to Defence Services**

**\*851. Raja Mahendra Pratap:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) the system of recruitment to the officers' rank of the Army, the Air Force and the Navy;

(b) whether any inquiries have been held in recent years (since 1947) to investigate the quality of material which finds its way to the officers' ranks of these Services; and

(c) whether a copy of each of these reports will be laid on the Table?

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia):** (a) Recruitment to the Officers' ranks of the Army, Navy and the Air Force is made

(i) through the National Defence Academy for which cadets are

selected by an examination conducted by the Union Public Service Commission, interviews by the Services Selection Board, Physical Endurance tests and, in respect of cadets for the Air Force, a Pilot Aptitude test; and

(ii) through Courses conducted separately by the three Services. Selection for these Courses is generally made on the basis of interviews by Service Selection Boards, Physical Endurance tests and, in respect of Courses of the Air Force, Pilot Aptitude tests. For some of these Courses, selection examinations are also conducted by the Union Public Service Commission.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

#### **'Amrutara Santana'**

**\*852. Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1282 on the 9th April, 1956 regarding the Oriya Novel 'Amrutara Santana' and state:

(a) whether translation of the novel into other regional languages has been completed by the Sahitya Akademi; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali):** (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 4].

#### **Singareni Collieries**

**\*853. Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount proposed to be allocated to Singareni Collieries for

the development of the Mines during the Second Five-Year Plan period; and

(b) the amount likely to be granted to the Company during 1957-58?

**The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya):** (a) and (b). The matter is under consideration. Pending finalisation of the terms and conditions of the Central Government's participation in the finances and management of the Singareni Collieries Company, sanction for the payment of a loan of Rs. 10 lakhs to the Company has been issued.

कार्यपालिका से न्यायपालिका को  
पृथक करना

\*८५४. श्री सरजू रांडे : क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) कार्यपालिका से न्यायपालिका को अलग करने के बारे में अब तक क्या प्रगति हुई है ; और

(ख) भारत के किन-किन राज्यों में न्यायपालिका को कार्यपालिका से अलग कर दिया गया है ?

गृह-कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री दातार) : (क) तथा (ख). आसाम, बम्बई, मध्य प्रदेश, मद्रास और केरल में न्यायपालिका से कार्यपालिका को बिल्कुल अलग कर दिया है। आन्ध्र, बिहार, पंजाब, उत्तर प्रदेश, राजस्थान और मैसूर राज्यों में ऐसा आंशिक रूप में किया गया है।

### Untouchability Act

\*855. **Shri B. C. Mullick:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state the steps taken by the Government of India to keep a watch over the working of the Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):** The State Governments are responsible for enforcing the provisions of the Un-

touchability (Offences) Act, 1955, which makes the practice of untouchability a cognisable offence. Adequate publicity has been given to the provisions of this Act in the various regional languages and most of the State Governments have also appointed small Committees to ensure the effective implementation of the provisions of the Act. In this connection attention is invited to the reply given to Shri Thimmaiah's Starred Question No. 1174 on 17th August, 1956.

### Beggars

\*856. **Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state whether any effort has been made either by the Union or State Governments to compile correct statistics of the number of beggars in the country?

**The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva):** Statistics of Beggars and Vagrants are available in the 1951 Census Report. Since then no independent enquiry to ascertain the number of beggars in the country has been made by the Central Government. As regards State Governments' efforts to compile correct statistics of beggars in the country, attention is invited to parts (b) and (c) of Shri Hem Raj's starred question No. 397, answered in the Lok Sabha on the 26-11-56 and the information subsequently laid on the Table of the House.

### National Institute of Basic Education

\*857. { Shri Ram Saran:  
Shri Shree Narayan Das:

Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) the number of senior workers who have received advanced training so far in the National Institute of Basic Education;

(b) how they are selected; and

(c) the qualifications prescribed for them?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimall):** (a) Nil.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

#### Basic Schools in Delhi

\*858. { Shri Vasudevan Nair:  
Shri Kunhan:

Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 156 on the 22nd July, 1957, and state:

(a) the defects and shortcomings of the basic schools in rural areas of Delhi as pointed out by Delhi District Board; and

(b) the measures agreed upon to remove them?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimall):** (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha [See Appendix III, annexure No. 5].

#### Social Welfare Work

\*859. Shri B. S. Murthy: Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 355 on the 25th July, 1957 and state the methods and modes adopted to secure popular co-operation in Social Welfare Work?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimall):** The Central Social Welfare Board as the co-ordinating agency for social welfare work, consists of members a majority of whom are associated with important voluntary welfare organisations. In the State Social Welfare Boards there is similar representation of popular workers in the field. Popular Project Implementation Committees have been established in every social welfare project and their members consist of workers drawn from the rural areas concerned. In addition

the various publications of the Board are meant to draw the public into active co-operation with and understanding of the social welfare activities in the country. Other organisations like Bharat Sevak Samaj also help primarily on public co-operation.

#### History of Freedom Movement

\*860. { Shri H. N. Mukerjee:  
Shri Bhakt Darshan:  
Shri A. K. Gopalan:  
Shri Kadiyan:

Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 370 on the 24th May, 1957 and state:

(a) whether arrangements for the writing of the History of Freedom Movement have been finalised;

(b) if so, what is the arrangement and the total amount that will have to be spent on the publication; and

(c) how the selection of the scholar for writing the History was made?

**The Deputy Minister of Education and Scientific Research (Shri M. M. Das):** (a) Not yet.

(b) and (c). Do not arise

#### Wind Power

\*861. Shri Narasimhan: Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to lay a statement on the Table showing the progress so far made in regard to the research programme pertaining to utilization of Wind Power?

**The Deputy Minister of Education and Scientific Research (Shri M. M. Das):** A statement containing the information asked for is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 6].

#### Exploration of Oil

\*862. Shri Bishwanath Roy: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state whether any pro-

posal is under consideration regarding exploration for oil to be undertaken in any new area this year?

**The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya):** Yes, Sir.

Deep drilling at Jāwalamukhi and Structural drilling at Bahl in the hilly area of the Punjab by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission will continue. In addition, in the coming winter, the Commission is planning to start structural drilling in Cambay area. Survey will continue in the Jaisalmer area, and the Commission have under consideration Geological Gravity, and Seismic Surveys in U.P. and seismic investigations in the Sibsagar area of Assam. In West Bengal, under the Indo-Stanvac Agreement, the Standard Vacuum Oil Company are doing test deep drilling near Burdwan.

#### Exploration of Petroleum at Jaisalmer

\*863. **Shri J. R. Mehta:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 474 on the 30th July, 1957, and lay a statement on the Table showing:

(a) the results of the explorations for Petroleum already made in Jaisalmer area;

(b) the maximum depth to which drilling was undertaken, and

(c) other similar schemes, if any dropped because of difficulty of foreign exchange?

**The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya):** (a) to (c). A statement containing the required information is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 7]

#### Integration of Banks

\*864. **Shri H. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state the stage at which the matter relating to the merger of the Bank of Jaipur Ltd., Bank of Bikaner Ltd., Bank of Rajasthan Ltd., and other State associated Banks with the State Bank of India stands?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. B. Bhagat):** The matter is under consideration.

#### Gram and Mukhya Sevikas

\*865. **Shri B. S. Lal:** Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Gram and Mukhya Sevikas required for carrying out the Social Welfare Programme; and

(b) the arrangement that has been made for their recruitment and training?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimall):** (a) The requirements for the Second Five Year Plan period are 12,980 Gram Sevikas and 1,520 Mukhya Sevikas.

(b) The Gram Sevikas required by the Central Social Welfare Board are recruited through the State Social Welfare Advisory Boards and trained at the centres run by the Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust whereas those required by the Ministry of Community Development are recruited through the State Governments and trained at the centres run by the Home Economics Wing of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture.

At present no arrangement exists for the training of Mukhya Sevikas.

#### Death of A Frogman

\*867. **Shri Goray:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether frogman P. N. Pethkar of the Indian Navy attached to the Royal Navy in England was given all the necessary instructions and good equipment before he was sent under water, and

(b) whether Government have obtained a full report of the incident which resulted in his death?

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia):** (a) Yes.

(b) A preliminary report has been received and a detailed report is awaited.

### निर्वाचन-क्षेत्रों का परिसीमन

\*८६८. श्री जे. ए. स. द्विवेदी : क्या बिबि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान इस ओर आकर्षित किया गया है कि गत सामान्य निर्वाचनों के तुरन्त पहले निर्वाचन-क्षेत्र परिसीमन आयोग ने चोषित क्षेत्रों में बहुत उलट फेर कर दिया जिससे अनेक उम्मीदवारों को बड़ी असुविधा हुई ; और

(ख) क्या सरकार भविष्य में इस बात का ध्यान रखेगी कि निर्वाचनों के काफी समय पूर्व निर्वाचन-क्षेत्रों की सीमाओं का निर्णय हो जाया करेगा जिससे उम्मीदवार आसानी से अपने निर्वाचन-क्षेत्र में सम्पर्क स्थापित कर सके ?

बिबि मंत्री (श्री जे. ए. स. सन) :

(क) नहीं महोदय, किन्तु सरकार यह मानती है कि सम्भव है कि गत साधारण निर्वाचनों के कुछ ही पहले निर्वाचन क्षेत्रों में की गई तद्विनियों के कारण कुछ असुविधाये उन निर्वाचनों में के उम्मीदवारों को हुई हो ।

(ख) सरकार यथाशक्य ऐसा करने का प्रयत्न करेगी ।

### Safeguards for Minorities

\*८६९. {  
Shri D. C. Sharma:  
Shri Supakar:  
Shri Mahanty:  
Shri Surendranath  
Dwivedy:  
Shri Yajnik:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether under Article 350-B of the Constitution a Special Officer to conduct enquiries into the working of safeguards for minorities has since been appointed;

(b) if so, whether the special officer has made any enquiry so far in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). The Special Officer is collecting relevant material.

### National Discipline Schemes in Basic Schools

\*८७०. Shri Bibhuti Mishra: Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are contemplating to give increased financial assistance for the introduction of National Discipline Scheme in Basic Schools of States and Union Territories,

(b) if so, the nature of the proposal; and

(c) the period within which it will be implemented?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The National Discipline Scheme is already in force in a number of schools in the colonies of displaced persons in certain States. It is now proposed to extend it to a large number of schools, in areas other than displaced persons' colonies, in three regions in Punjab, Bombay and West Bengal. The Scheme will cover basic schools also. The details of the scheme and the financial implications are still under examination. It is hoped to implement the scheme on this larger scale from this year.

### Imports from Japan

\*८७१. {  
Shrimati Tarkeshwari  
Sinha:  
Sri Bahadur Singh:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that discussions are going on in Japan in regard

to the proposals for exporting Hydro-electric equipment, textile machinery and other capital equipment to India on deferred payment basis, and

(b) if so, the nature of facilities to be given by Export Import Bank of Japan to Japanese exporters?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) and (b) Discussions have taken place, both in Japan and in India, on the question of deferred payment terms for purchases by India of various types of capital equipment, these discussions have, however, not yet concluded and it is therefore not possible to indicate what facilities will actually be provided

#### State Bank of India

\*872. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state how many persons connected with rural work and representing rural areas have been placed on the Board of Directors of the State Bank of India?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat). The Central Board of the State Bank of India contains at least two Directors with special knowledge of the working of co-operative institutions and of rural economy as is required in terms of the State Bank of India Act, 1955

#### Atala Mosque, Jaunpur

\*873 Shri Ganpati Ram. Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government of India have allotted any money during the last three years for the repair work of the Atala Mosque of Jaunpur,

(b) whether this historical building comes under the Central Monuments Act,

(c) if so, the action Government propose to take in regard to its repair and maintenance, and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrivastava): (a) No, Sir

(b) Yes, Sir The Mosque was declared as a protected monument in 1919 under the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act, 1904

(c) and (d) As the trustees of the mosque are not willing to enter into an agreement with the Union Department of Archaeology, under Section 5 of the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act, 1904, covering the various matters connected with the maintenance of the monuments, it has not so far been possible to carry out any repairs to the mosque

#### Loan for the Construction of Bhuvaneswar

\*874 Shri Sanganna: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to refer to the answer given to Starred Question No 2016 on the 8th May, 1956, regarding the construction of the Bhuvaneswar new Capital and state

(a) whether the state Government of Orissa have applied for further loan and

(b) if so with what results?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat). (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

#### Commonwealth Joint Naval Exercise

\*875 Shri Raghunath Singh: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state whether it is a fact that India is participating in Commonwealth Joint Naval Exercise at the invitation of Ceylon Government?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia). Indian Naval Ships and Aircraft will be participating in Commonwealth Joint Naval Exercises at the invitation of the Ceylon Government received through the Commander-in-Chief, East Indies Station, Royal Navy



### Coal Distribution

\*876. { Shri Shree Narayan Das:  
Shri Matin:

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) the circumstances in which the Government of India have abolished the quota system for the brick burning coal and soft coke;

(b) the advantages resulting therefrom; and

(c) what arrangements have been made for future distribution of coal in general and brick burning coal in particular?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) The quota system was subject to a six-monthly review. At the last review in June 1957, it was found that the system had given rise to numerous complaints from consumers, who were experiencing considerable difficulties in locating coupons. They also had limited choice in the matter of selecting individual collieries for their supply and this gave rise to complaints against the quality of coal. Also at the time of the review there was considerable reduction of the pit-head stocks. So the system was abolished with effect from the 1st July, 1957. The quota system for soft coke, however, is continuing.

(b) It was expected that by this change, the consumers will have a greater choice in selection of collieries and would get supplies with greater facility.

(c) But for the abolition of the quota system for brick burning coal, which used to be superimposed on the distribution of coal, there is no other change.

### National Book Trust

\*877. Shri Ram Saran: Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether the first meeting of the National Book Trust has been held;

(b) if so, decision taken by them; and

(c) whether they will publish books in general?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 8.]

(c) Yes, Sir, the books of general interest for which the Trust has been set up.

### Asiatic Society, Calcutta

\*878. Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether revised proposals have lately been received from the Asiatic Society, Calcutta, for financial assistance; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposals are under consideration.

### Copper Requirements

\*879. Shri B. S. Murthy: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to refer to the replies given to the supplementaries raised on Starred Question No. 451 on the 30th July, 1957 and state:

(a) the total requisite quantity of copper needed for country's use during the Second Five Year Plan; and

(b) the total quantity available from indigenous sources?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) The total quantity of copper required for the country's use during the Second Five Year Plan is estimated at 1,90,000 tons.

(b) The total quantity available from indigenous sources during the Second Five Year Plan is estimated at 37,500 tons.

राज भाषा आयोग

\*८८१ { श्री. स. ला. द्विवेदी :  
श्री. म. ल. दशगुप्त :

क्या गृह-मंत्री २४ मई, १९५७ के अताराकित प्रश्न संख्या २१३ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि सविधान के अनुच्छेद ३४४ के खण्ड ४ के अनुसरण में राज भाषा आयोग के प्रति-वेदन की जाच करने के लिये ससदीय समिति कब नियुक्त हो जायेगी ?

गृह-मंत्री मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री दत्तार) : जैसा कि माननीय सदस्यो को मालूम ही है, रिपोर्ट की प्रतिया कल सदन में परिचारित की जा चुकी हैं। समिति के निर्वाचन का प्रस्ताव दोनों सदनों में इसी अधिवेशन में किसी समय प्रस्तुत किया जायेगा।

#### Report of Delhi (Advisory) Language Committee

\*८८२ { श्री D. C. Sharma:  
श्री Radha Raman:  
श्री M. L. Dwivedi:  
श्री Khushwaqt Rai:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No 992 on the 17th December, 1956 and state:

(a) whether the report of Delhi State (Advisory) Language Committee has since been considered; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) and (b). The matter is still under consideration

रक्सौल और हितीरा के बीच रेलवे लाइन

\*८८३. श्री विभूति मिश्र : क्या बिस्म मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि नेपाल सरकार ने रक्सौल और धमलेखगंज के बीच नैरो गेज लाइन को मीटर गेज लाइन में बदलने के लिये तथा उसे हित रा तक बढ़ाने के लिये भारतीय सर्वेक्षकों की सेवार्थें मांगी हैं ; और

(ख) यदि हा, तो नैरो गेज बदलने का यह काम भर। सरकार द्वारा किया जायेगा अथवा नेपाल सरकार द्वारा ?

बिस्म उद्मन्त्री (श्री ब. ल. भगवत) :

(क) रक्सौल और धमलेखगंज के बीच वर्तमान नैरो गेज रेलवे लाइन को मीटर गेज लाइन में बदलने और उसे नेपाल में हितीरा तक बढ़ाने की प्रायोजना के सम्बन्ध में यातायात और इंजीनियरी विषयक सर्वेक्षण करने के लिये भारत सरकार ने नेपाल सरकार की प्रार्थना पर एक दल भेजा था।

(ख) मैदानी काम पूरा हो गया है और प्राशा है जल्दी ही रिपोर्ट तैयार हो जायेगी। जब तक रिपोर्ट के सम्बन्ध में कोई रण्य नहीं हो जाता, तब तक यह नहीं कहा जा सकता कि यह काम किस के द्वारा पूरा किया जायगा।

#### Bridges over Sai and Gomti

\*८८४. श्री Ganpati Ram: Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether bridges over Sai at Jalalganj and over Gomti at Jaunpur come under the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act;

(b) if so, the repairs that have been carried out there during the last three years;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government are aware of the serious damage caused to the bridge over Gomti by the unusual flood in the river in 1954?

(a) whether it is a fact that the Junior Commissioned Officers are now given only Rs 2 per day as Train Journey Ration Money for their travels, while on duty or on leave; and

(b) how does this compare with the journey allowances of Officers who are commissioned?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) The rate has been increased from Rs 2 to Rs 2.25 nP with effect from the 1st April, 1957.

(b) Commissioned Officers are not entitled to any incidental charges for journeys while proceeding on or returning from leave, but they receive incidental charges at the rate of one anna per mile while travelling on temporary duty and annas four per mile while travelling on permanent duty. Under certain circumstances, however, when they travel on warrant, e.g. when proceeding to field service areas or accompanying bodies of troops they are entitled to a daily allowance at the rate of Rs 10 per day for the journey period and no other incidental charge is paid to them.

#### Hindustan Steel Ltd

618 Shri P. G. Deb: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to lay on the Table the annual report of the Hindustan Steel Ltd at Rourkela and the Audit Report on the accounts of the factory for the year 1955-56?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): A copy each of the documents in question has already been laid on the Table of Lok Sabha.

#### यूनेस्को सम्मेलन

६१६ श्री सुभाष राय क्या शिक्षा और वैज्ञानिक शोधकर्ता सभी यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि नई दिल्ली में हुये यूनेस्को सम्मेलन पर केन्द्रीय सरकार का कुल कितना खर्चा हुआ ?

शिक्षा और वैज्ञानिक शोधकर्ता मंत्रालय में राज्यमंत्री (इ.० ब.० स.० श्रीमती) १४.७ लाख ६० ।

#### Trainees under Colombo Plan

620 Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state

(a) how many foreigners have come to India for specialised training in various institutions under the Colombo Plan during the year 1957 so far, and

(b) the names of the institutions to which they have been admitted?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) 55 foreigners including 15 Commonwealth Citizens have come to India for specialised training in various institutions under the Colombo Plan during the period from the 1st January to 31st July, 1957.

(b) A statement showing the required information is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha [See Appendix III, annexure No 11].

#### Rehabilitation of Ex-Servicemen

621 Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state

(a) the amount spent on the rehabilitation of ex-soldiers from the Punjab State for the year 1956-57, and

(b) the ratio in which this expenditure was met by the Centre and the State of Punjab?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of Lok Sabha.

#### Geological and Mineralogical Investigations in Punjab

622 Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state the total estimated amount to be spent by Government on Geological and Mineralogical investigations in Punjab during the Second Five Year Plan?

The Deputy Minister of Education and Scientific Research (Shri M. M. Das): Separate estimates are not

prepared of the amount to be spent by Government on Geological and Mineralogical investigations in individual States. The investigations are carried out by the Geological Survey of India and the Indian Bureau of Mines and estimates are prepared for the organisations as a whole.

नागा विद्रोह

६२३. { श्री रघुनाथ सिंह :  
श्री हेम बरुआ :

क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) विद्रोह के प्रारम्भ से कितने भारतीय राष्ट्रजन नागा विद्रोहियों द्वारा मारे गये या आहत किये गये ; और

(ख) उक्त अवधि में नागा विद्रोहियों द्वारा मारे गये अथवा आहत व्यक्तियों में कितने वफादार नागा थे ।

गृह-कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्र (श्री वातार) : (क) तथा (ख) मांगी हुई सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और प्राप्त होने पर वह लोक सभा-पटल पर रख दी जायेगी ।

भारत में अमेरिकी छात्र

६२४. श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि अमेरिका के कितने पुरुष तथा महिला छात्र और गवेषणा कार्यकर्ता भारत में अभी फिलहाल अध्ययन कर रहे हैं अथवा ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में कुछ गवेषणा कार्य कर रहे हैं ?

गृह-कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्र (श्री वातार) : १-१-१९५७ को भारत में अमेरिकी छात्रों की कुल संख्या १४४ थी । पुरुष तथा महिलाओं की और ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में गवेषणा कार्य करने वालों की संख्या के सम्बन्ध में सूचना उपलब्ध नहीं है ।

## T.B. Hospitals in Cantonments

625. **Shri M. R. Krishna:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) the Cantonments where T. B. Hospitals are in existence;

(b) the Cantonments where arrangements for treating T.B. Patients are provided; and

(c) whether under the Second Five Year Plan Government have any scheme to open hospitals or domiciliary Clinics for T.B. treatment in Cantonments?

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia):** (a) No Hospitals exclusively devoted to T.B. patients exist in any of the Cantonments.

(b) The Cantonment Hospitals at Wellington and a private hospital in Ahmednagar Cantonment have made arrangements to admit T.B. patients. T.B. patients are also treated in the Cantonment hospitals at Kamptee and Poona but during the non-infectious stage only. T.B. patients of 33 other Cantonments can avail themselves of treatment facilities in the hospitals in the neighbourhood. It is regretted that the remaining 22 Cantonments are lacking in facilities in this respect.

(c) It is proposed to have a T.B. Clinic in the Cantonment Board Hospital, Ambala and a T.B. Ward at Aurangabad during the Second Five-Year Plan.

## Dispensary at Chachu Bazar, Tripura

626. **Shri Dasaratha Deb:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation has been made for establishing one dispensary at Chachu Bazar, Mohanpur Tehsil, Tripura; and

(b) if so, the steps taken so far in this regard?

**The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under consideration.

**Director of Education, Manipur**

627. Shri L. Achaw Singh: Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons why the post of the Director of Education in Manipur has been lying vacant since the 7th September, 1954,

(b) whether it is a fact that the Inspector of Schools in Manipur has been asked to carry out the duties of the Director of Education; and

(c) whether Government are aware of the fact that many schools could not be inspected and school inspection work has suffered due to pressure of work?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimani): (a) It has not so far been possible to recruit a suitable person for the post through the Union Public Service Commission

(b) and (c) No, Sir.

**Smuggling**

628. { Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:  
Shri Raghunath Singh:  
Shri H. N. Mukerjee:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether the land customs staff have arrested a Cuban and an American at Attari border;

(b) if so, the amount of Indian currency notes and other valuables found from them; and

(c) where were they proceeding to?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) The land customs staff have arrested one Mr Thomas Dana who holds a Cuban passport. One Mr. Leo Roy Frey holding an American passport, who was accompanying Mr. Dana, was simultaneously arrested by the local Police.

(b) The amount of Indian currency notes and other valuables found with them were as follows:

- (i) Indian currency Rs 8,50,000.
- (ii) U.S dollars \$10,001.
- (iii) Thais 78
- (iv) Hong Kong dollars 1
- (v) Time piece 1
- (vi) Pocket Radio 1
- (vii) Unlicensed Pistol 1
- (viii) Unlicensed live cartridges 48.

(c) They were proceeding to West Pakistan

**Salaries of Government Servants**

629. Shri V. P. Nayar: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the highest and lowest monthly salaries in the services under the Government of India, and

(b) how many officers employed by Government now draw monthly emoluments of over Rs 1,500?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) The highest salary in the services under the Government of India, which has been prescribed on the recommendation of the Central Pay Commission appointed in 1946, is Rs. 3,000 p.m. Holders of certain special appointments under the Constitution, members of the services whose conditions of service have been protected under Article 314 of the Constitution and some individuals who entered service prior to 16th July, 1951 draw pay above Rs 3,000 when holding specific posts.

The lowest monthly salary (pay plus dearness allowance) admissible to a Class IV Government servant is Rs. 70 p.m in places other than certain expensive localities, where they draw compensatory and/or house rent allowance in addition.

(b) 987, excluding officers of the Armed Forces, as on 30th June, 1954. The figure as on 30th June, 1955 is not yet available, but the number will be approximately the same as on 30th June, 1954.

### Post-Graduate Scholarships in Manipur

630. Shri L. Achaw Singh: Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) the terms and conditions for the grant of scholarships to post-graduate students by Manipur Administration; and

(b) whether these conditions were fulfilled in the award of scholarships to post-graduate students under Manipur Chief Commissioner's Order dated the 8th November, 1956?

The Deputy Minister of Education and Scientific Research (Shri M. M. Das): Information has been called for from the Chief Commissioner, Manipur Government and will be laid on the Table of Lok Sabha in due course.

### Private Schools in Manipur

631. Shri L. Achaw Singh: Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state the conditions for giving grant-in-aid to private schools in Manipur?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): A statement is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 12].

### Primary Schools in Manipur

632. Shri L. Achaw Singh: Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are more than 25 Government primary schools in the territory of Manipur without any building and furniture;

(b) whether there have been complaints about the lack of facilities for buildings and equipment from the school teachers and the public in the hills and valley of Manipur; and

(c) the steps that are being taken to maintain the minimum necessary standard in these schools?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Such complaints are received occasionally.

(c) Efforts are continuously made to maintain minimum standard.

### Bull-Dozer Drivers

633. Shri L. Achaw Singh: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1040 on the 18th December, 1956 by the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply and state the present position of the proposal for increasing the pay of the bull-dozer drivers in the Public Works Department of Manipur?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): The general question about the revision of pay scales of Drivers (including bull-dozer drivers) serving in various Departments of Manipur Administration is still under consideration.

### Smuggling in Manipur

634. Shri L. Achaw Singh: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) what kind of articles are smuggled out of Manipur;

(b) the amount of articles seized by the Manipur police and land customs department in Manipur during the last one year; and

(c) the action Government have taken to check this smuggling?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) As far as Government are aware small quantities of articles like sugar, batteries, biscuits, textiles and cigarettes are smuggled out of Manipur to Burma, the only foreign territory adjoining that State.

(b) The amount of articles seized in Manipur during the last one year (from 1st July 1956 to 30th June 1957) is Rs. 2,700 by the land customs

department. No seizure has been made by the Manipur police during that period.

(c) Various and progressively intensive steps are being taken by the Government of India to combat such smuggling.

#### Recruitment of Assistants

635. Shri B. C. Kamble: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the rules or orders under which the recruitment through the Union Public Service Commission was made by the Home Ministry against the long term vacancies of Assistant Grade in Attached Offices between the period from July 1947, to July, 1953 when a ban on recruitment to Assistant Grade through U P. S. C test and other promotion except that of permanent employees was made by the Finance department based on the Pay Commission Report in July, 1947, and

(b) the reasons why the eligible permanent employees especially of the Scheduled Castes were not considered for promotion against such vacancies?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) and (b). A statement explaining the position is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 13].

#### Tours of Ministers

636. Shri B. C. Kamble: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) how many Union Ministers, Deputy Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries, if any had undertaken tours, both official and non-official between the date of declaration by the Election Commission of election schedule of the last General Elections held in 1957 and the last date of the General Elections held; and

(b) the total expenditure the Union Government had to incur on that account?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

#### आदिवासी

६३७. श्री डत्तार : क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मध्य प्रदेश के इन्दौर डिवीजन के विभिन्न जिलों में केन्द्रीय सरकार की सहायता से आदिवासी कल्याण विभाग द्वारा चलाये गये विभिन्न उपक्रमों में अनुसूचित आदिम जाति और अनुसूचित जातियों के कितने पदाधिकारी और कर्मचारी नियुक्त हैं ; और

(ख) क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार के पदाधिकारी मध्य प्रदेश के इन्दौर डिवीजन में अनुसूचित जातियों और अनुसूचित आदिम जातियों के लाभ के लिये चलाई गई सस्थाओं के कार्यों की जाच करते हैं या उन्होंने जाच की है ?

गृह-कार्य उ.मन्त्री (जीवनी जलवा) : (क) तथा (ख). जरूरी सूचना इकट्ठी की जा रही है और प्राप्त होते ही यह समा-पटल पर रख दी जायेगी ।

#### Central Excise Department, Orissa

638. Shri Sanganna: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No 2372 on the 25th May, 1956 regarding the number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes employed in the Calcutta Collectorate of Central Excise and state whether any, and if so, how many, persons have so far been confirmed out of those appointed under different categories?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): None of the temporary employees has since been confirmed. Their cases are under consideration.



**Foreign Exchange Spent on Tours**

639. **Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state the amount of foreign exchange spent or that will be spent on:

(i) the delegation from India to Moscow for Sixth World Youth Festival;

(ii) the two delegations of Services to Moscow; and

(iii) the delegation of newspaper editors which recently went round Europe, America and Japan?

**The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** (i) No foreign exchange was released or is proposed to be released for the delegation from India to Moscow for the Sixth World Youth Festival.

(ii) Rs. 24,000.

(iii) Rs. 15,630.

**Investment of Life Insurance Funds**

640. { **Shri Bimal Ghose:**  
**Shri Tanti:**

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have given any direction or exercise any control in regard to investment of life insurance funds by the Life Insurance Corporation of India;

(b) if so, the nature of such direction or control;

(c) the extent of Life Insurance Corporation's investments in equities on 20th April, 1957, 31st May, 1957 and 20th June, 1957;

(d) the proportion of investments made by the Life Insurance Corporation of India through the stock exchanges in Bombay, Calcutta and Madras respectively; and

(e) whether profit or loss on the investment is accounted for at the end of the year?

**The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Total investments made in equities.

as at 20.4.57 Rs. 3,56,77,806.93

as at 31.5.57 Rs. 4,82,71,968.82

as at 20.6.57 Rs. 5,63,83,885.82

(d) The amounts invested by the Corporation from 1.9.56 to 30.6.57 in (i) Government and Approved Securities and (ii) Debentures, Preference Shares and Ordinary Shares and the proportions they bear to the respective totals are as under:—

(a) Govt. & Approved Securities	Amount (Face Value)	Percentage
Bombay	Rs. 13,53,32,800†	82.4
Calcutta	Rs. 1,11,65,600	6.8
Madras	Rs. 1,67,57,900	10.2

† Out of this, Rs. 2,42,74,000/- represents Securities bought directly from the Reserve Bank of India, Bombay.

(b) Debentures, Preference & Ordinary Shares	Amount Invested	Percentage
Bombay	Rs. 4,60,88,700	47.2
Calcutta	Rs. 4,78,30,300	48.9
Madras	Rs. 38,20,700	3.9

(e) Yes, Sir.

**Construction Work at Rourkela**

641. **Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state the amount that has been spent till the end of 1956 over the construction of the township for Rourkela Steel Project?

**The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya):** A sum of Rs. 3.18 crores has been spent on the Township till the end of December, 1956.

**Aid to Kashmir**

642. { Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:  
Shri H. C. Sharma:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state the total amount in the shape of grants and loans given to the Jammu and Kashmir State by the Government of India since 1947 so far, under different heads such as grant, loan suspense account, with or without interest?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): The Government of India have given to the Government of Jammu and Kashmir since 1947 financial assistance to the extent of Rs. 47,16.87 lakhs under the following heads:

(in lakhs of rupees)

(a) Regular interest bearing loans	25,18.48
(b) Advances under the head 'Aid to Kashmir' upto 13th May 1954 and expenditure on Jammu-Pathankot road	9,53.89
(c) Grants since 14th May 1954	1,55.00
(d) Annual Grant-in-aid since 1954-55	8,29.50
(e) Food Subsidy	2,60.00

**Standard Vacuum Oil Company**

643. Shri Tangamani: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Standard Vacuum Oil Company do not maintain any balance sheet for its business in India, but only a statement of accounts, estimated in accordance with the Company's books maintained in New York?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): As required by sub-section (3) of section 277 of Indian Companies Act, 1913, which was in force till 31-3-1956, the company duly filed copies of its consolidated Balance

Sheet as at 31st December, 1955, embodying the assets and liabilities of its subsidiaries and branches throughout the World, together with a statement in Form 'H' as prescribed in the Third Schedule to the Indian Companies Act, 1913. The company's accounts for the subsequent period ending with the 31st December, 1956 to be drawn up in terms of section 594 of the Companies Act, 1956 are not yet due.

**Burmah Shell**

644. Shri Tangamani: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Burmah Shell Oil Storage and Distributing Company of India, Ltd. prepares its balance sheet as a Commission Agent to its parent Oil Group in Britain; and

(b) whether it is a fact that this balance sheet does not show the wages of the staff and officers etc. employed by it?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) As required under sub-section (3) of section 277 of the Indian Companies Act, 1913 which was in force till 31-3-56, the company had filed with the Registrar of Companies, copies of its balance sheet as at 31st December, 1955, which it submitted to the Public Authorities in the United Kingdom, where it is incorporated. The balance sheet of the Company for the year ended 31st December, 1956 to be prepared in terms of section 594 of the Companies Act, 1956, is not yet due.

(b) Yes, Sir. This is because particulars of wages and other expenditure on employees of a company are not required to be furnished in a balance sheet.

**Oil Refineries**

645. Shri Tangamani: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government have accepted a ceiling in the Income Tax payable by the Oil Refineries?

**The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** No, Sir. The tax payable by the Refinery Companies is regulated by the ordinary provisions of the Income-tax Act.

#### House Building in Tripura

**646. Shri Dasaratha Deb:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Tripura is not getting materials for building construction such as cement etc.;

(b) whether it is a fact that Tripura has been suffering very badly for want of C.I. sheets at present; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to meet this requirement in Tripura?

**The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir; but supplies could not meet the entire requirements.

(c) Owing to the present acute shortage of iron and steel materials and cement, demands of the various States including that of Tripura could not be met in full. In the case of Tripura, there is also the additional difficulty of transport causing delays in deliveries. Despatches from Calcutta are being expedited.

#### Panel of Valuers

**647. Shri Ramakrishna Reddy:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) on what basis the panel of valuers under the Estate Duty Act are appointed;

(b) whether they are appointed by the Ministry of Finance itself or any other authority; and

(c) whether the panel of valuers is created in every State or only at the Centre to look into the matters of all the States?

**The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** (a) Any person, who fulfils the qualifications and con-

ditions as prescribed by the Central Government and published in the Gazette of India in the form of Notice issued from time to time, may apply for inclusion of his name in the panel of Valuers under the Estate Duty Act. The property to be valued for Estate Duty purposes is divided into several broad categories such as immovable property, stocks and shares, Jewellery, works of Art etc. and Valuers for each category are appointed according to the prescribed qualifications. The appointment in each case is for a period of three years in the first instance, but any Valuer may apply for re-appointment subject to his satisfying the requirements for the time being in force.

Wide publicity is given to the issue of such Notices through the Press, and the local Income-tax offices. Copies are also sent to the professional Institutions like the Institute of Chartered Accountants, Institute of Engineers etc. The latest Notice issued on 8-7-57 in this connection was published in the Gazette of India, dated the 18th July, 1957 (Part I, Section I—pp. 260-261).

(b) The Valuers are appointed by the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue).

(c) The panel of Valuers is constituted on an All-India basis and the Valuers in any State are free to take up valuation work for Estate Duty purposes in any part of the country.

#### High Court Judges

**648. Shri S. Ghose:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) how many Judges of High Courts have been transferred so far according to the provisions laid down in Article 222 of the Constitution of India; and

(b) how many of them are the Judges of Calcutta High Court?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Dasgupta):** When the States were re-organised in November last, all the High Courts in

the former Part B States (except Jammu and Kashmir) were abolished. But power was taken to allot such of the Judges of those High Courts, as could be continued, to the High Courts in the new set-up. Action was accordingly taken under Section 50(3) of the States Re-organisation Act, 1956 to allot some of these Judges to the High Courts in the new set-up. The names of the Judges, who were so continued and the High Courts to which they were allotted, will be found in the statement laid on the Table. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 14.]

2. As a result of the transfer of certain areas of the former Madhya Pradesh State to the new Bombay State, it also became necessary to transfer some of the Judges of the former Nagpur High Court to the High Court in the new State of Bombay. This was done under Article 222 of the Constitution. A list of the Judges so transferred will be found in the statement laid on the Table. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 14.]

3. In July last, Shri S. R. Das Gupta, a Judge of the Calcutta High Court, was appointed as the Chief Justice of the Mysore High Court. This was an appointment made under Article 217 of the Constitution and not a transfer under Article 222 of the Constitution.

#### Assistants

649. Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Assistants in the "Non-Test" category at present and the number of Displaced Persons out of them;

(b) the number of Assistants of each of the above category included in the "Initial Constitution" and "Initial Regular Temporary Establishment";

(c) the number of Assistants still left out from the categories mentioned in (a) and (b) above;

(d) whether the persons left out will be included in the "Maintenance Regular Temporary Establishment"; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Bhat):

(a) 891 were eligible for inclusion in the 'Non-Test' Category of Assistants and out of them 296 were displaced permanent Government Servants\*

(b) Initial Constitution of Grade IV of the CSS.

(i) Displaced Government Servants ..	109
(ii) Others .. .. .	229
Total . . . . .	338

R.T.E. of Assistants 486\*  
(Initial Constitution)

\*Separate number in respect of displaced and non-displaced Government servants not available.

(c) 67.

(d) and (e). Most of the remaining persons are either quasi-permanent Assistants, or persons who have qualified in the Assistants' grade examination held in 1951 or are eligible for appointment to Grade I of the Clerical Service at the initial constitution. They are being considered for appointment to the RTE at the maintenance stage on the basis of their position in these three lists.

#### Armed Forces Service Conditions

650. Shri Naushir Bharucha: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that wide disparity in service conditions of officers and ranks in the Armed Forces exists in matters of gratuity, children's allowances, travelling allowances, baggage allowances, rate of increment and disability pension; and

(b) the steps, if any, that Government propose to take to minimise these disparities?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) There are differences under the Pay, Pension and Passage Regulations in the benefits admissible to officers and other ranks in the Armed Forces in regard to the matters referred to.

(b) The benefits regarding gratuity etc. of different grades of Government employees are regulated with reference to their basic conditions of service, pay, the nature of their duty and the inducement that is reasonable and necessary.

हिन्दी स्टेनोग्राफर

६५१ { श्री मोहन शर्मा  
श्री सुबोधन राय

क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) इस समय केन्द्रीय सचिवालय में कुल कितने हिन्दी स्टेनोग्राफर्स काम कर रहे हैं ;

(ख) संघ लोक सेवा आयोग द्वारा किसी भी परीक्षा के लिये कम से कम कितने स्थानों का होना आवश्यक है ;

(ग) क्या संघ लोक सेवा आयोग द्वारा हिन्दी स्टेनोग्राफर्स की नियुक्ति के लिये आज तक कोई परीक्षा ली गई है ; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो भविष्य में ऐसी परीक्षा कब ली जायेगी ?

गृह-कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (जी. बातार) : (क) २८.

(ख) से (घ) तक. संघ लोक सेवा आयोग द्वारा परीक्षा लेना अभी उचित होगा जब कि हिन्दी स्टेनोग्राफर्स की पर्याप्त संख्या में आवश्यकता हो। इसके लिये कोई न्यूनतम संख्या निर्धारित नहीं की गई है।

हिन्दी स्टेनोग्राफर्स की अभी इतनी कम संख्या में आवश्यकता है कि उनके स्थानों की तदर्थ आधार पर पूर्ति ज्यादा सुविधाजनक समझी जाती है। इसलिये अभी तक संघ लोक सेवा आयोग द्वारा कोई परीक्षा नहीं ली गई। यह कहना सम्भव नहीं है कि ऐसी परीक्षा कब होगी।

यह हिन्दी स्टेनोग्राफर्स की तेजी से बढ़ती हुई मांग तथा उनके रिक्त स्थानों की संख्या पर निर्भर करती है।

Multi-purpose Schools in Andhra

652. Shri B. S. Murthy: Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 357 on the 25th July, 1957 and state:

(a) the number of multi-purpose Schools started in the Andhra Pradesh during the period of the Second Five Year Plan so far; and

(b) the amount of Central aid asked for and given during 1956-57 and 1957-58 (so far) for this purpose?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) Two—during 1956-57

(b) No Central assistance for this scheme was asked by the State Government during 1956-57. In the State educational development plan for 1957-58 an amount of Rs. 58,000 has been provided out of which the proposed central share amounts to Rs. 34,800. No amount has, however, been sanctioned so far.

Grants for Scientific Research

653. Shri B. S. Murthy: Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of grants given to the Andhra and Venkataswara Universities during 1956-57 for pursuing scientific research; and

(b) the subjects of research?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) —

Andhra University	Rs. 4,09,000
Sri Venkateswara University	Rs. 1,35,000

(b) A statement giving the requisite information is laid on the Table. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 15.]

### Andaman Islands

**654. Shri Ganpati Ram:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state—

(a) what measures have been taken by the Government of India in Andaman and Nicobar Islands to ameliorate the conditions of aborigines,

(b) the total money spent so far during the First Five Year Plan period and in the Second Plan, and

(c) what additional measures Government propose to take in the future?

**The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva):** (a) (1) One hospital ship "INDAUS", which was acquired under the Colombo Aid Plan, has been stationed in Nicobar Islands to render medical aid to the Nicobarese

(2) A tribal welfare scheme costing Rs one lakh has been sanctioned for the educational and economic uplift of these people. A medical-cum-Anthropologic unit is being set up under this scheme for the welfare of Onges

(3) A Regulation known as the Andaman & Nicobar Islands (Protection of Aboriginal Tribes) Regulation, 1956 has been promulgated to protect the aborigines from exploitation

(4) One NES block has been sanctioned for the Nicobar group of Islands

(5) One Malaria-cum-Filaria unit has been set up in Nicobar Islands

(6) A scheme for the development of coconut plantation in Nicobars has also been sanctioned

(7) Special staff and necessary equipment for treatment of Venereal diseases are being provided at the Car Nicobar hospital

(b) There was no special First Five Year Plan for these Islands. The aborigines got the benefit of the normal departmental activities. Separate figures of expenditure on their welfare are not readily available

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House [See Appendix III, annexure No 16]

### Excise Duty on Tobacco

**655. Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state the amount realised from excise duty levied on tobacco from the State of Madras for the years 1953-54, 1954-55 and 1955-56?

**The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** A statement giving the information required is laid on the Table [See Appendix III, annexure No 17]

### Salary of Primary School Teachers

**656. Shri M. D. Mathur:** Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to lay a statement on the Table showing

(a) the basic salary of a primary school teacher in each State, and

(b) how much increase in the basic salary of a primary school teacher has been effected in each State after the offer of the Union Government to contribute 50% of the increased expenditure?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimall):** (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House [See Appendix III, annexure No 18]

### Oceanography

**657. Shri B. S. Murthy:** Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state whether any students have been sent abroad so far by Government for higher studies in Oceanography?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): No student has been sent by the Government of India; but two persons who were already in employment were awarded scholarships (one by UNESCO—and the other by the Government of Yugoslavia) for study/training abroad in Oceanography

### इस्फूर्तजा महाजारी

६१६. श्री भक्त बर्मान : क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री ३० जुलाई, १९५७ को पूछे गये तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या ४६४ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि जब से इस्फूर्तजा का प्रकाप हुआ है तब से अब तक दिल्ली में भारत सरकार के प्रत्येक मंत्रालय में नियुक्त जितने व्यक्ति इस्फूर्तजा के शिकार हुए ?

गृह-कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (बी बतार) : सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और वह सभा-पटल पर रख दी जाएगी ।

### Scheduled Castes Employees in Defence Depots

659. { Shri D. A. Katti:  
Shri B. K. Gaikwad:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state

(a) the number of Scheduled Castes Employees serving in the various Defence establishments in Poona;

(b) the percentage of such employees;

(c) whether the percentage reserved for the Scheduled Castes is maintained; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) to (d). Employment in defence establishment is not by castes. The information asked for is not readily available but can be collected only by questioning the employees as to their caste.

### Gypsum Deposits in Tiruchirapalli

660. Shri Tangamani: Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether a survey of Gypsum deposits has been carried out by Government in Tiruchirapalli district of Madras State;

(b) if so, the quantity available; and

(c) the steps, if any, that have been taken for its full exploitation?

The Deputy Minister of Education and Scientific Research (Shri M. M. Das): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Reserves within a depth of 50 feet are estimated to be about 15 million tons

(c) The matter is under consideration of the State Government

### Mineral Survey in Madras

661. Shri Narasimhan: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to lay on the Table:

(a) a copy of programme of work of the Geological Survey of India and the Bureau of Mines for Madras State for the year 1957-58 and the Second Five Year Plan; and

(b) the programme of work of the Geological Survey of India and Indian Bureau of Mines separately for the period mentioned above for Salem district in Madras State?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

**अनुसूचित जातियों के सरकारी कर्मचारी**

१६२. श्री कृष्ण नारायण : क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या अनुसूचित जाति के केन्द्रीय सरकारी कर्मचारी जिनको तीन वर्ष में अधिक काम करते हो गया है, स्थायी बना दिये गये हैं, और

(ख) यदि नहीं तो ऐसे कितने कर्मचारी हैं जिन्हें स्थायी नहीं किया गया है ?

गृह-कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री बाबू) : (क) अनुसूचित जाति के अस्थायी कर्मचारियों को, यदि वे योग्य पाए जाएं, तो अनुपात से उनके लिये विशेषतः सुरक्षित रखे स्थायी स्थानों में उनका स्थायीकरण किया जाता है। स्थायी स्थानों की मर्यादा हर ग्रेड और काडर में भलग भलग है और तीन ही वर्ष अथवा सेवा के किसी निर्धारित समय में ही उनका स्थायीकरण हमेशा संभव नहीं होता। फिर भी ऐसे कर्मचारियों को उन दूसरों से बहुत पहले स्थायी बनाय जाने की संभावना है जिनका सेवा काल बाहे उनसे अधिक हो ; और

(ख) उन कर्मचारियों की संख्या, जो स्थायी नहीं बनाये गये हैं, मालूम नहीं है और न ही उमर (५) में दिये उत्तर को ध्यान में रखते हुए इस सूचना को आसानी से एकत्र करना सम्भव है। है।

Mr. Speaker: The House will now take up other business

# **PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE** **AMENDMENTS TO MEDICAL AND TOILET PREPARATIONS (EXCISE DUTIES) RULES**

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. B. Bhagat): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (4) of Section 19 of the Medicinal and Toilet Preparations (Excise Duties) Act, 1955, a copy of the Notification

No. S. R. O. 1948, dated the 15th June, 1957, making certain amendments to the Medicinal and Toilet Preparations (Excise Duties) Rules, 1956. [Placed in Library. See No. S-183/57].

## **RE. ADJOURNMENT MOTION**

Raja Mahendra Pratap (Mathura).  
Sir, on a point of Order

Mr. Speaker: I may state this for the information of the hon. Members The hon Member gave notice of an adjournment motion after the House began to sit—that is, at 11.05 A.M. Therefore, I disallowed it on that ground Further, what he referred to therein was purely a matter of law and order of a State Therefore, We are not concerned with it On both these grounds, I have disallowed it I further sent word to him about it Whenever I disallow or do not give my consent, I inform the hon Member and if still he has any doubts and wants to convince me by any arguments, he can come and see me and if I am convinced, I will agree with him and waive the notice

Raja Mahendra Pratap: At what time can I come and see you, Sir?

Mr. Speaker. He can come and see me in the Chamber soon after I go to the Chamber

## **CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE**

### **PROPOSED STRIKE BY DELHI TEACHERS**

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): Sir, under Rule 197 I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Education and Scientific Research to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon:—

“The proposed strike by the teachers in Government and private schools in Delhi on the 20th August, 1957”



The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research (Dr K. L. Shrimall): The Delhi State Teachers' Association—vide their letter No 7054 dated the 25th July, 1957, intimated that the teachers would go on a 'chalk-down' strike for four days from the 20th August, 1957 During the period of strike they propose to go to schools, attend the classes but not to do teaching work

The immediate reason for the proposed strike is a letter addressed by the Directorate of Education, Delhi holding in abeyance the revision of scales of pay of certain categories of Government school teachers on account of an audit objection The Association in their letter dated 25-7-1957, have also referred to certain grievances and demands submitted to the Government from time to time during the last 30 months

The Delhi State Teachers' Association, which is an organisation of aided as well as Government school teachers, have been making representations on various issues which have received the attention of Government In January last, and subsequently they have submitted a number of demands which are listed below —

- (i) Revision of scales of pay of certain categories of teachers etc
- (ii) Confirmation of Government school teachers
- (iii) Regular payment of salaries in the aided schools
- (iv) Observance of Departmental orders by local bodies
- (v) Raising the allowances of teachers serving in rural areas

Mr. Speaker : How long is the statement? How many pages are there?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: This is a long statement

— — — — —  
For the former portion of the statement actually read by the Minister,  
see col 8213

Mr. Speaker: He has given sufficient information to the House relating to the causes

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: The whole statement may be placed on the Table of the House

Mr. Speaker: Very well

Shri S. M. Banerjee: The reading of the statement may avoid the proposed strike

Mr. Speaker. It will be published It will be laid on the Table of the House and it will be available to the Press

Shri V. P. Nayar (Quilon) What is the action proposed? The operative portion may kindly be read

Mr Speaker What is the step proposed to be taken?

Dr K. L. Shrimall: I do not think there is any reason for the strike All the matters are being examined sympathetically by the Government, and I am sorry that the teachers have taken this action The Government have always taken a very sympathetic attitude towards the demands of the teachers, not only of Delhi but the whole country and we have adopted several measures to improve the conditions of service of teachers all over the country Therefore, I think the notice of strike was uncalled for

Mr. Speaker He has asked them not to strike that is all (Interruption) Order order Hon Members wanted to have the operative portion of the statement for the reasons stated elaborately in the statement The Minister considers that it is not necessary to have a strike, it is uncalled for That is all that can be said

(THE \*PORTION OF THE STATEMENT BY THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH LAID ON THE TABLE)

(vi) Revision of Provident Fund Contribution and grant of Triple Benefit Scheme

(vii) Free medical treatment to the non-Government school teachers

(viii) Free school education to the children of teachers

(ix) Withdrawal of circular issued by the Delhi Administration regarding the participation in politics of teachers working in Government-aided private schools

(x) Request for representation of the teachers' Association being provided on local bodies etc

(xi) Request for scholarships for teachers' children for educational purposes

(xii) Retirement of teachers in provincialised local bodies schools

(xiii) Revision of scales of pay of Government school teachers by vacating the audit objection

The action so far taken is described below —

As regards the holding in abeyance of the revision of scales of pay as a result of the audit objection raised by the Accountant-General, Central Revenues, it may be stated that the matter is being looked into by Government and till the audit objection is answered and withdrawn, we cannot give effect to revised pay scales.

The position with regard to the remaining points raised in para. 3 above is as under —

(1) Any revision in the scales of pay, especially with retrospective effect, needs very careful examination by the Government in view of the repercussions of any decision arrived at on other categories of employees. This matter is still engaging the consideration of Government. In the case of language teachers, however, the Government have already taken a decision and explained it to the Teachers' Association.

(ii) About 80% of the vacancies existing in 1954 have already been placed on permanent basis and administrative action is being taken by the Delhi Administration to confirm teachers gradually against those posts. Confirmation orders of 148 teachers have already been issued and the cases of others are being expedited. In this connection it may be pointed out that, at the time of confirmation, medical examination at the proper level has to be completed and it is necessary to fulfil certain other formalities in this behalf. For various reasons, including the recent Influenza epidemic, this work has proceeded slowly and the Delhi Administration, which is responsible for the delay, has been directed to complete the matter expeditiously.

(111) As regards the payment of salaries in aided schools, arrears of salaries in respect of most of the Institutions brought to our notice by the Teachers' Association were arranged to be paid by the first week of April last. With a view to ensuring better working of Government-aided private Institutions a committee under the chairmanship of Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani has already been appointed by the local Administration to go into this and other connected matters.

(iv) In so far as the observance of departmental orders by the local bodies is concerned it has been explained to the Teachers' Association that such bodies are autonomous in character and the issuing of any mandatory instructions in this behalf is not feasible, except when an emergent situation arises.

(v) As regards raising of allowances of teachers serving in rural areas, this cannot be taken as an isolated case because of other categories of Government employees similarly placed and the matter has been explained to the

representatives of the Delhi State Teachers' Association

(vi) The revision of the rate of Provident Fund Contribution and the implementation of the Triple Benefit Scheme, are being looked into by the committee on private aided schools. Any ad hoc decisions cannot be taken in view of the repercussions of such decisions on other categories of Government employees.

(vii) With regard to free medical treatment to non-Government school teachers, the local Administration have set up a committee which is looking into this question.

(viii) The question of providing free school education to the children of teachers is under the consideration of the Delhi Administration.

(ix) The circular letter regarding the participation in politics of aided school teachers was withdrawn some time ago and the teachers' representatives have been informed about it.

(x) Regarding the request of teachers for being represented on local bodies, the teachers' representatives were informed that they should take up the matter with the Local Bodies concerned.

(xi) As regards the request for scholarships to teachers' children, the matter is under consideration by the Delhi Administration.

(xii) Some of the teachers in local bodies' schools, who had already been retired as a result of the orders issued by the Directorate of Education in November, 1956 were recalled to duty and the orders were rescinded retrospectively.

It must be admitted that there has been considerable delay on the part of the local administration in passing final orders in some of the cases. This is partly due to the complicated nature of the cases requiring careful

examination by the Ministry of Finance and consultation with other concerned agencies and partly to slowness of the procedure on the part of the Delhi Administration, which has been directed in clear terms to gear up its administrative machinery to deal with these issues promptly. At the same time it is necessary to make it clear that it is improper on the part of the teachers to formulate demands and then to threaten to go on strike if all or some of them cannot be accepted for administrative or financial reasons. Moreover, teachers in Government service who threaten to strike are liable to disciplinary action under Government Servants' Conduct Rules. It has been explained to the representatives of the Association that Government deprecates such threats to resort to strikes, when the various demands made by them have been and are being looked into sympathetically by Government. The Ministry of Education have done all that is feasible to ensure that proper treatment is meted out to teachers. They have adopted several measures to improve the efficiency, social status and general welfare of all teachers; they have undertaken schemes for the revision of teachers' salaries all over the country—the terms and conditions of the Delhi teachers are on the whole better than those in other States. Government would like to convey to them the assurance that their interests and welfare will always be looked after with solicitude, but Government expect in return a similar attitude of reasonableness and co-operation from all the teachers, whether in Government or private service.

\*DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—contd.

MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND FUEL

Mr. Speaker: The House will now take up discussion of Demands for Grants Nos. 78, 79, 80, 81 and 126

\*Moved with the recommendation of the President

[Mr. Speaker]

relating to the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel. As the House is aware, 5 hours have been allotted for the Demands of this Ministry.

There are a number of cut motions to these Demands. Hon. Members may hand over at the Table within 15 minutes, the numbers of the selected cut motions which they propose to move. I shall treat them as moved, if the Members in whose names those cut motions stand are present in the House and the motions are otherwise in order.

The time-limit for speeches will, as usual, be 15 minutes for the Members including movers of cut motions, and 20 to 30 minutes if necessary, for leaders of Groups.

I will call upon the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel to reply to the debate.

May I know how long the Minister will take for his reply?

**The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh):** My colleague, the Minister of Mines and Oil will require half an hour and I will take about 45 minutes.

**Mr. Speaker:** So, between them they will take an hour and a quarter. So, I will call upon them at 16.15 hours after which the Cut Motions will be disposed of and the Demands put to vote. If one of them wants to intervene earlier I shall give him an opportunity at that time.

#### DEMAND NO. 78—MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND FUEL

**Mr. Speaker:** Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 31,15,000 including the sums already voted on account for the relevant services be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1958, in res-

pect of 'Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel'."

#### DEMAND NO. 79—MINES

**Mr. Speaker:** Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 28,37,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1958, in respect of 'Mines'".

#### DEMAND NO. 80—EXPLORATION OF OIL AND NATURAL GAS

**Mr. Speaker:** Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,50,31,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1958, in respect of 'Exploration of Oil and Natural Gas'".

#### DEMAND NO. 81—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS AND OTHER EXPENDITURE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND FUEL

**Mr. Speaker:** Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 55,96,93,000 including the sums already voted on account for the relevant services be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1958, in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Other Expenditure under the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel'".

#### DEMAND NO. 126—CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND FUEL

**Mr. Speaker:** Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,68,65,24,000 including the sums already voted on account for

the relevant services be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1958, in respect of 'Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel' "

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao (Khammam)**  
Mr Speaker, Sir, when we discuss the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel, we are really discussing the core of the Plan, and when we discuss about the progress that this Ministry has made we are discussing really the economic development of our country. Keeping this in view let us examine the various projects undertaken by this Ministry and the various departments under this Ministry.

I first want to take up coal and coal production which is very important for the industrial development of our country. We have laid down in the Second Plan that we should raise 60 million tons by 1961—the various annual targets for this period have not yet been worked out. In 1955 the production of coal was 38.2 million tons, and during the period 1956-57, that is the first year of the Second Plan it was only 39.4 million tons. Out of this increase of 1.2 million tons, one million tons were from the private sector and 0.2 million tons from the public sector. In the Plan we have allotted 12 million tons in the public sector and 10 million tons in the private sector. Judging by this, our progress is rather very unsatisfactory, it is not only unsatisfactory, we are really undertaking a great risk, because if we are not going to achieve the targets laid under the Second Plan I am afraid our whole Plan is not likely to be successful.

In the Plan various targets have been fixed for various coal mines. For instance, the Korba coal fields in Madhya Pradesh was allotted 4 million tons by 1961. Only a few days back in reply to a question I was told that we are touching coal in one of

the open cast mine. I do not know when the three under-ground mines will go into full production or full swing. If in the year 1957 we are just touching coal in Korba coal fields, which have been allotted 4 million tons by 1961, I am afraid we will not be able to reach the target. Similarly, it has been stated that Bistrampur collieries have been allotted an additional 3 million tons. I do not know when the work on these particular mines will start.

Then I come to Singareni collieries which have been asked to double their output during the Second Plan period. Here the output during the First Plan period was 1.5 million tons a year and it has to be increased to 3 million tons by 1961. Financial assistance to the tune of Rs 6 crores has been allotted to this particular colliery. But, what has happened? During the first year of the Plan that is 1956-57, not a single pie was granted. I do not know what is the provision made for 1957-58. I am told that only Rs 10 lakhs have been given to it as against the State Government's request for Rs 60 lakhs to Rs 75 lakhs. If the rate of progress has to be maintained, if we are really serious about achieving the targets, instead of discussing with the management or the State Government whether the Centre should send one director or two directors or whether the Centre should participate in the capital—these discussions should go on, but why withhold the financial assistance when you have laid down that it should produce an additional 1.5 million tons—we should straightaway give the financial assistance. If you withhold the financial assistance it will retard the progress, because if a mine wants to produce some additional coal it will have to undertake a plan three years before-hand, and all the machinery etc will have to be indentured three years in advance. For coal mining machinery we are very much dependent on foreign countries. Even small things like drills we have to

[Shri T B Vittal Rao]

import Therefore, unless and until prompt action is taken, I am afraid these 12 million additional tons of coal cannot be had In the private sector we are told that they have produced an additional one million tons during 1956 I am afraid whether the private sector will keep to the target of 10 million additional tons during the Second Plan period, because the way these mines are worked is not good For instance, during the last one year, small and medium mines have been closed down For example, the Mandalpur colliery, the Singareni colliery and the Bhurra Dhemo colliery in West Bengal have been closed down The Rajaur colliery in Madhya Pradesh has been closed I am told the reason for the closure of some of these coal-mines is that the Chief Inspector of Mines asked them to undertake some safety measures but that entailed some expenditure and so they have closed down the mines

So many things are pointed out about the policy in regard to the mines, like transport bottlenecks and the rest But I fail to understand why, while there is a demand in this country which is more than the actual production, there should be no proper planning for the transport of coal

There has been a committee appointed with regard to the amalgamation of collieries This committee, after going through the coal-fields in Bihar and Bengal, submitted a report nine months ago They made several recommendations The committee urged on the Government that they should immediately undertake the study of this question of amalgamation of small collieries which today are 660 in number out of the total of about 900 collieries in the country This committee dealt with, very exhaustively the various aspects of the coal industry, and they have

urged upon the Government that the Government should take action quickly on the report Not only that, I have not seen any report so far with the Government of India wherein a time schedule has been worked out a regular time-table given that by such and such date legislation should be undertaken A time-table has been worked out in this report saying that by such and such a time the collieries should be amalgamated voluntarily and if not, what action should be taken in that regard A proper time-table has been worked out and given to the Government But though the report was submitted a little more than nine months ago the Government are still examining the report I do not know when they are going to finalise their conclusions Even in the report, they have categorically stated that action is urgently called for Otherwise, they said these mines under the private sector will work in such a way which will make it very difficult for progress ahead in a planned way when we take them over

Then I come to lignite mining in Neiveli The working of these mines, I am afraid is rather very slow The various estimates and other things given to us in the various reports make us feel that the Government has undertaken this working not in a proper way i.e. after a careful scrutiny For instance, during the meeting of the consultative committee, we were told that the cost per ton of lignite raised in these mines would be Rs 6-8-0 to Rs 7 But in the annual report of the Ministry suddenly this figure goes up to Rs 8 per ton This is a very serious proposition How is that that within a course of a few months there is an increase of Rs 1-8-0 per ton?

When I find the investment on these mines, I find that the capital works out at the rate of Rs 50 a ton, as against Rs 30 to Rs 40 a ton for

working a new virgin coal-field. Again, the thermal value of lignite is at the rate of 2½ tons, which is equal to the thermal value of one ton of coal. Therefore, when we work out these figures, it will amount to something like two and a half times the thermal value of lignite, that is to say, if we had invested in coal such a large amount which we have now invested on lignite, we would have got in coal two and a half times more in thermal value than through lignite. Therefore, I would very strongly urge upon the Ministry to see how this amount of Rs 16 crores has been arrived at. Otherwise, the working of lignite will not be an economic proposition at all. If we have to pay Rs 8 a ton, it will work out to Rs 20 in terms of thermal value. Our resources in coal are very huge. Why we have to go in for lignite in that case? Because, we were getting it a little cheaper, we have undertaken this lignite project. Otherwise there are many coal-fields in India. Our deposits are very huge. We are told that in Bihar area itself our coal deposits run to some 16,000 million tons and that in the Bengal area, according to the estimates recently made, 11,000 million tons are available. Similarly, nearabout Madras and in South India, near the Singareni collieries we have got huge deposits of coal. We have got a coal-bearing area which runs to the tune of 800 sq miles there. Keeping all this in view, I would like the Minister to see whether the estimate that has been prepared for this project, namely, Rs 16 crores, for raising three million tons by 1961 is in order.

Not only that. On the basis of raising this cheap lignite, we have also undertaken to instal a fertiliser plant. Therefore, any extra expenditure or any increase in the cost of production of lignite at Neyveli will greatly upset our Plan for the production of fertilisers.

Then I come to the training of the supervisors' cadre. We were told that four training centres will be set up during the Plan period. I have

seen in the report that four centres are already being set up in Talcher, Kurasia, Giridih and other places. Some more ought to be established during the Plan period. One of the training centres was to be sanctioned in Andhra Pradesh. It was proposed to be set up near the coal-mines there. But though one and a half years have passed, there is no trace of that yet. I am told that Rs 60,000 have been granted by the Centre for starting this training centre. I do not know what work the State Government has undertaken. There is nothing. Only two weeks ago, one of the Executive Engineers has come and visited the site where it has to be located. According to one estimate, it is said that during the Plan period we need nearly 5,000 supervisors if we have to work our mines in a planned and efficient way. But even in these training centres, as the figures show, some 400 people are going to be taken. They are not going to be sufficient. Therefore, I would urge upon the Ministry to hasten the setting up of this institution.

Various committees have recommended the nationalisation of coal mines. Government, however, have decided not to nationalise the coal mines during the Plan period. I would request them to nationalise at least the mines raising metallurgical coal. We have got very insufficient deposits of metallurgical coal as compared to the other coal deposits. Metallurgical coal is very essential for our steel plants. Until and unless we properly plan out the raising of this coal, our steel plants will suffer. We have got abundant supply of coal from Bokaro collieries, but there are so many coal mines in the private sector which raise metallurgical coal, which is very essential for our steel plants. Not only that, this metallurgical coal is being utilised by the railways. We have decided during the first Plan period itself to reduce it to a very great extent, but we could not do that. There was a reduction of about 50,000 tons only. But during this Plan period at least, we



[Shri T. B. Vittal Rao]

should not sell completely metallurgical coal to the railways; we must put a stop to this. Otherwise, we are thinking of not only three steel plants, but fourth and fifth plants also, when we will require huge quantities of metallurgical coal. For the proper and safe working of these mines, it is very essential that the Government should take up the nationalisation of at least metallurgical coal, because they are committed not to nationalise the other coal mines.

This is the picture that emerges. When we see certain papers written about planning and other things, we find that we are going to raise about 120 million tons in the third Plan and 200 million tons in the fourth Plan. Considering the natural resources in our country, these figures are not very much; compared to the production that is raised in the leading coal raising countries, these figures are not much. But we find that the Government are not very serious about these things. We can easily increase the raising of coal from 60 million tons to 70 million tons even during the plan period.

Coming to the conditions of workers in these coal mines, even in the public sector, the conditions are rather deplorable. When we raise the question of wages or salaries of the workers, Government tell us that they are going to provide amenities, but not increase the salaries, because it would lead to inflation. But here in the public sector, there are nearly 60 to 70 per cent. of the workers who live in places which are unfit for human habitation. I do not know if our Minister had ever visited the coal mines in Bokaro and Giridih. It is a heart-rending sight and it is most deplorable. So, they should undertake the construction of good quarters in the public sector.

It was planned to have 2,000 quarters in 1957-58 in the public sector, but I do not know how many are

likely to be constructed, because in 1956-57, out of 600 quarters planned, I am afraid not even 400 were constructed and let out. Even water supply is not adequate in the Bokaro collieries, where nearly 5,000 to 6,000 workers live. They wanted a centralised water-supply system. I do not know at what stage that programme is. After the setting up of the washing plan, this area is going to be a very important area and the Government should hasten the construction of quarters and the water-supply system in this area.

There has been an upward revision of the price of coal twice. First of all the price was increased following the Industrial Tribunal award. When that was done, we were told that the Government had examined the cost structure and they have given that increase. After that, Labour Appellate Tribunal award came. In that award, it was clearly laid down that this increase that has been granted in 1956 is sufficient to cover the extra expenditure on account of the implementation of the Labour Appellate Tribunal award, but the Government have increased it by Rs 1-8-0 per ton and appointed a committee twice to go into the cost structure. In the first instance they said, after going through the award and the consequent increase in the cost of production, they have given the increase in the statutory price of coal. Now another committee has been appointed and another increase of Rs. 1-8-0. If one goes through the Labour Appellate Tribunal's award, it was clearly stated that the extra earning is the bonus that he is going to get. In the lower tribunal, bonus formed part of the wages, but in the Labour Appellate Tribunal, they have removed bonus as part of the wages, because they have said that nearly 50 per cent. of the workers in the coal mines do not get it. So, these increases should not have been resorted to. Even if they have been resorted to, they could have awaited the report of the price revision committee and then made that revision.



Even this retrospective effect of this implementation of the Tribunal award is going to take 27 months. Within three or four months, the report could have been got and Government could have taken a decision on that.

We produce the cheapest coal in the world, but we do not use this coal either economically or efficiently. Several papers have been written by the Director of Fuel Research Institute, Dr. Lahiri, that this coal should be utilised very efficiently. Unless and until commercial use is being made of the researches conducted in the Fuel Research Institute, Dhanbad, I am afraid we will not advance very much.

I have several points to touch about manganese and iron ores, but I will confine myself to the recent closure of a manganese mine in the Garivadi mines. Manganese is one of the chief sources of earning foreign exchange and we have got a good quantity of manganese ore in our country. But, what do we find? Recently, the manganese mines in the Vizianagram district and Srikakulam district have been closed. I am given to understand that the Andhra Pradesh Government has ordered the closure of these mines. Ten thousand workers who were employed in these mines have been thrown out of employment. There is a large scope for expanding these mines and increasing production. They have been exploited in the private sector in a very haphazard way. If we want these to be properly exploited in a planned way, I would like these mines to be nationalised immediately in view of the several difficulties that we are undergoing in regard to foreign exchange and in regard to supply of manganese ore to our steel plants. It was said that some iron ore mines will be undertaken in the public sector. So far, I have not seen any mine being worked in the public sector. I understand some American experts have given a project report. I do not know when they will be implemented.

Finally, I would urge upon the Government to improve the conditions of the workers. The Labour Appellate Tribunal has said that the condition of the workers working in the coal mines has to be improved considerably. The Committee on the amalgamation of small collieries has reported that the condition of the workers in the coal mines is very deplorable and that every effort should be made to improve their condition. Several Committees have reported similarly. I would strongly urge upon the Government that they should see that the condition of these workers engaged in the most basic and key industry is improved.

Shri Viswanatha Reddy (Rajampet) Mr Speaker, I quite agree with my hon friend Shri T. B. Vittal Rao that this Ministry should provide the core of the Plan. The subjects with which this Ministry concerns itself are so vital to the development of our country and so very extensive that we might be justified to think that this Ministry will have to provide the smews for a sound foundation which will result in rapid industrialisation of this country. Therefore, I will confine my submissions to only one aspect of the activities of this Ministry and that is, oil, production, refinement and distribution of oil.

As the House is well aware, oil has played a very important role in the economic history of various countries. It has been said that America rode to prosperity on a wave of oil. The significance of this statement is well known to the House because America today commands a large reserve of oil not only internally, but also it has got a command of the various oil fields all over the world. We have witnessed up to this date political imperialism reigning supreme in this world. Today, oil imperialism has taken its place. When we consider the happenings in the Middle East, this conclusion is irresistible. Therefore, it is quite imperative that we in our country should develop oil resources as fast as and in as large a measure and as quickly as possible.

[Shri Viswanatha Reddy]

Till 1953, our efforts in the direction of oil exploration were almost negligible. It is only in 1953 that Government entered into an agreement with Stanvac for oil exploration in the West Bengal area. It has taken four years for this project to yield results. We are told that in April last well boring has been started with a view to strike oil. I hope very soon we might strike a good load of oil in the West Bengal area. Up to 1953, only the Assam Oil Co. in our country did discover a small deposit in Digboi and other areas of Assam. At present, our production is 12 per cent. of our consumption of oil. Our consumption of oil is increasing very fast. It is only natural that it should increase because of the industrialisation and consequential increase in the transport requirements of the country. In aviation and in several other directions, our consumption of oil is increasing. Therefore, it is of very great importance that we place a great deal of emphasis on the exploration of oil.

In the world today, apart from the western countries and Soviet Russia and some of the Eastern European countries, only very few countries have the know-how, not only for the exploration of oil, but also for the refinement of oil. It is really gratifying that although we have started our scheme of exploration only in 1953, and from 1955 at a governmental or a purely national level, we have advanced very far indeed. We have our young and enthusiastic technicians and with the encouragement and considerable amount of support given by the hon. Minister Shri K. D. Malaviya, we have achieved considerable results. We have today in our possession the know-how for exploring and drilling of oil. Very soon we are going to establish a refinery which will give us the know-how for the refinement of oil. That means, after we do that, we will know the A to Z of this business of oil. Very few countries in the world can boast of this achievement. Therefore, I submit to the House that I have got unreserved appreciation of the acti-

vities of the Oil and Natural Gas Division.

We have been consulting several foreign experts with regard to the possible areas where we should look for oil in our country. The Canadians have given us a report. The U.S.S.R. has given a brief report. The Germans have given us reports. Most of these reports corroborate each other and confirm the conclusions reached by each one of these countries. According to these reports, we have to look for oil in eleven distinct areas in our country. Out of the eleven, the most important are Punjab, Jwalamukhi area in the Punjab, the Jaisalmer area in Rajasthan, the Gangetic plains in the U.P. and of course, West Bengal and Assam. The next priority will be Cambay, Kathiawar and Kutch region in Saurashtra. We have to examine the activities of the Oil and Natural Gas Division with particular reference to these three important areas that are to be found in the Punjab, Rajasthan and the U.P.

Oil seepage in Jwalamukhi area has been discovered recently. That has given an indication to the Oil and Natural Gas Division to look to these regions more carefully. They have conducted all sorts of surveys; geological, geophysical, seismic, gravity and other surveys have been conducted in that area with the result that drilling operations have started with very good hope of striking oil in a matter of months. I am told that in this particular region, oil can be struck at a comparatively smaller depth than it obtains in several other regions in the world. I hope that this discovery of oil in Jwalamukhi area would open up a large area for actual drilling and we would be able to get a large proportion of our needs of oil in our country.

13 hrs.

We are today spending nearly Rs. 65 crores annually on the import of oil. Now this expenditure is bound to increase from year to year. That cannot be doubted; it need not be proved

at all; it is axiomatic. I have one small doubt with regard to the programme that has been drawn up by the Oil and Natural Gas Division during the next five year period. In the beginning when the Russian experts submitted their report it was suggested that the Jaisalmer area should be given top priority in the matter of exploration of oil. Now I find that the emphasis has shifted to the Gangetic region. I do not know if this shift in emphasis is based on sound reasoning and sound and adequate data available in this region. From all the reports that I have been able to lay my hands on, I find that the only point in favour of the Gangetic plain is the physical resemblance of this region to regions like the Urals, the Alps and the Rockies. Beyond that the substantial geological reports or the data available after thorough investigation do not afford any basis for the shift in emphasis.

In the Jaisalmer area on the other hand a considerable amount of data has been gathered and the Soviet experts have submitted another report. Incidentally I may mention that this report unlike several other reports which are full of verbiage and picturesque descriptions, is very business like. It places before us our immediate task, our organisation, the financial implications and the way in which we have to train our technical personnel. It is absolutely business like and I really think that Government should pay much more attention to this report than it has so far done.

The Jaisalmer area is a desert. I had been reading a few months back certain reports about the discovery of oil under similar circumstances in Sahara by the French experts. The French people seem to have specialised in the exploration of oil in desert areas. It created rather a sensation a few months ago when this discovery was announced. I would submit to the hon. Minister that it is worthwhile for us to contact those experts in France and see if it is not possible for us to persuade them to investigate further the Jaisalmer area. I have

got a feeling that this area is very rich in oil resources and if we proceed on the right lines the whole of the desert area might be dotted with derricks marking the location of new oil finds. I would therefore humbly suggest that the French experts should be brought over there and given a chance to advise us on the possibility of striking oil in this area.

The Gangetic plain is admittedly covered by a thick layer of alluvium and therefore it was not possible for our geologists to make a thorough investigation. This is also an area which does require considerable amount of study and I hope the Government, the Oil and Natural Gas Division, will not hazard drilling operations without having assured itself of the possibility of striking oil.

I was reading the Soviet team's report in detail and in that report they have mentioned the setting up of large number of geological parties, geophysical parties, seismic parties, gravity parties, and so on. From the actual reports of the activities of the Ministry and the plan that they have drawn up for the next five years it is seen that the recommendations have been very much watered down and diluted. That is, the number of parties that are recommended to be set up during the five year period has been drastically cut down and even the financial allotment for the exploration of oil which has been recommended should be of the order of Rs. 30 crores during the next five year period has been cut down to Rs. 11 crores. That means it is hardly possible for us even to touch the fringe of this problem of oil exploration with this rather meagre allotment of funds. I would, therefore, suggest that this Ministry should leave no stone unturned and spare no efforts to see that the whole allotment of Rs. 30 crores is given for this very important and vital aspect of our economic activity. I would request the hon. Minister to explain to the House a doubt which I have entertained and I suppose several hon. Members of this House also have.

[Shri Viswanatha Reddy]

I have a feeling that in this matter of setting up of survey groups, survey parties, it is not possible to drastically cut them down. There is a marginal limit for cutting down the number of survey parties, gravimetric, seismic or geological or geophysical parties. There must be a marginal limit. Otherwise the work will be held up in every one of the regions which might be objects of enquiry or exploration by the Oil and Natural Gas Division. I would like to be assured by the hon. Minister that this drastic cutting down of the technical organisation does not impair our capacity to investigate and explore oil for which high priority has been given.

Now I would like to refer to the synthetic oil project about which considerable interest was evinced in this House sometime back. It has been said that three foreign firms have submitted project reports with regard to the synthetic oil plant of a capacity of three lakh tons of aviation spirit per annum. I am told that the synthetic oil thus produced would be 50 per cent. higher in cost than natural mineral oil. Even granting that it is 50 per cent. higher than the natural oil I would suggest that this scheme should be pursued with vigour because during the time of emergency to have with us an assurance of availability of three lakhs tons of aviation spirit is certainly a great advantage to us and a matter of 50 per cent. increase in the cost of aviation spirit should not normally bother us very much. I would, therefore, like to know from the hon. Minister whether this scheme is being pursued with as much interest and vigour as it was originally planned or is it going to be allowed to lapse as several other projects.

Now I would like to make a reference to the refinery that we are thinking of setting up as a national venture without any partnership from any of the oil companies. As I have already stated, this provides an opportunity to

know more about the refining process of oil and the knowledge itself is really worthwhile for all of us. If we look back a few years we cannot but realise the great difficulties that were faced by the Iran Government in regard to the Abadan Oil Refinery. They were driven from pillar to post and from country to country and finally had to surrender to the terms and conditions offered by the British oil interests. We should not be in the same position. We must have the know-how to refine oil in our own country. Our technicians should endeavour in that respect and we should encourage their endeavour.

There is a certain amount of politics behind the establishment of this refinery. I would certainly not like to enter into the controversial aspect of the setting up of this refinery. But from all the reports that I have been able to get I find that most of the refineries in the world are situated as near as possible to the consuming centre. Crude oil is produced and pumped through pipelines to the refineries which are, as far as possible, situated near the consuming centres. Unless the refineries are situated near the consuming centres the refined products coming out of the refineries may not be economical and competitive with the products produced by the oil companies. Therefore, if our endeavour is to see that the products of our refineries should have competitive value as compared to the products of the oil companies, we should see that our refinery is set up near the consuming centre. I cannot submit more than this with regard to this refinery. But I would make a suggestion to the hon. Minister. If it is possible to send through the pipe line, which is bound to be laid between the producing centre and the location of the refinery, the finished products, as it is being done in the Middle East and some other countries, I would like the hon. Minister to examine the possibility very carefully. If it is possible to

send motor spirit, aviation spirit, kerosene, light diesel oil and so on through pipe line simultaneously in batches, then there is absolutely no harm, I think, even if the refinery is located at the producing centre. I would like the hon Minister to examine this position very carefully. Incidentally this will satisfy the demand that the refinery should be located in Assam. Of course, if it is in the national interest and if in spite of all these examinations it is not possible from a purely economic point of view to locate it in Assam, certainly our friends from Assam should be satisfied with that.

With these words I support the demands for this Ministry

13.14 hrs

[SHRI C R PATTABHI RAMAN in the Chair]

Shri T Subramanyam (Bellary): I will confine myself mainly to iron and steel. I accord my full support to the demands of this Ministry.

In the context of modern civilization the material greatness of a country is measured in terms of the production of its iron and steel. You want iron and steel for everything; for buildings, for railways, shipping, aeroplanes, automobiles, industrial undertakings, big and small machinery, for all these we require iron and steel. In the agricultural sector also we require iron and steel for agricultural implements. Therefore, the basis for modern industrial civilization is mainly the production of iron and steel.

It would be interesting to examine our position in the world of the production of iron and steel. In 1950 the total world production of iron and steel was 185,166,000 out of which U.S.A. produced 86,352,000 tons, U.S.S.R. produced 26,870,000 tons and U.K. 16,569,000 tons. In the same year the per capita production came to 628 lbs. in U.K. and 1,237 lbs. in U.S.A. In India it was only 12 lbs per capita. I am not making it a matter of complaint because it is the

legacy that has been left to us, for the British people left us a very sorry tale of development in this respect and we had practically to start from the scratch. But luckily in our country we have infinite potentialities with regard to the production of iron and steel, with regard to the availability of raw materials. We have got iron ore of very rich and precious variety in almost limitless quantities in various parts of India. Then we have got manganese, coking coal and other necessary material for the production of iron and steel. Then there is another additional factor and that is the long tradition of smelting which goes to the remote past. In every State, in almost every district you will find signs of smelting iron. I have got it in my own district. Then we have got eloquent testimony in Delhi itself. Near Qutab Minar we have got an iron pillar which must have been smelted in the early centuries. To this day it has stood rusting and corrosion and it is a marvellous piece of work. Even today it is being appreciated. This is the present story.

In South India some attempts were made to start production of iron and steel in the last century. They all failed. But afterwards in Bengal in 1875 an attempt was made and that was successful. Later that company came to be known as the Indian Iron and Steel Company. That was in 1937. Tatas started in 1907. Today it is the largest integrated steel manufacturing plant in the Commonwealth and it is the largest single unit. The Mysore Steel Works in Bhadravathi was started in 1918. In 1936 a steel plant and a steel rolling mill were added and then the capacity was 25,000 to 30,000 tons per annum.

The industry enjoyed protection for a long time. This protection lasted from 1924 to 1947, when it was decided to discontinue it. In 1916 our production of iron and steel was about 99,000 tons. Then it went on increasing up to 1944 when it reached 11,32,030 tons. Then after the war

[Shri T. Subramanyam]

period it declined and in 1946 it came down to 8,90,383 tons. In 1952 while our deficit was of two million tons we produced only 1.1 million tons. Our requirement at the end of the Second Plan period is supposed to be six million tons of steel ingots or about 4.5 million tons of finished steel. This is proposed to be made up by helping the private sector and also by the new steel plants that are being constructed in the public sector. Tatas would double their output to about two million tons. The Indian Iron and Steel Company would contribute about .9 million tons. The Mysore plant would contribute about one lakh tons and the rest of it, that is, 3 million tons would be made up by the public sector, 1 million tons by the Bhilai plant, 1 million tons by the Durgapur plant, and 1 million tons by the Rourkela plant. But we have to face the actual realities. While the estimated cost is one thing, the revised estimates for these steel plants have gone up enormously. The present estimates for Rourkela, on the basis of contracts entered into, are to the tune of Rs. 170 crores, while for Durgapur, the estimated figure at present is about Rs. 138 crores; the figure for the Bhilai plant has not yet been received, and probably, when it is received, it will be found that it will also be of the order of Rs. 138 crores.

During the current year, the budgeted amount for Rourkela is about Rs. 60 crores, that for Durgapur is Rs. 33 crores, and that for Bhilai is Rs. 63 crores. It will be found that when completed, these three plants will effect an annual saving of nearly Rs. 200 crores in foreign exchange, which is a very valuable thing. Now that we are all complaining of the shortage of foreign exchange, this will have a very significant effect on our industrial development.

It will also be found that our steel would be cheaper, because it is expected to sell at Rs. 400 per ton, while the foreign steel is expected to sell at about Rs. 600 per ton.

It is also contemplated to start a fourth steel plant, a fifth steel plant, and so on. In this context, I would like to say that a balanced regional development is necessary for the progress of our country. All these steel plants, for one reason or another—and some of the reasons may be very good and very valid—are all located in particular areas. I strongly urge that in South India also, you must start these iron and steel plants, and these basic industries.

I may say that in South India, we have got iron ore of good variety in several places like Bellary, Salem and so on. So far as the Bellary ore is concerned, I know about it very well, and, therefore, I must give a little more detail about it. The iron ore in Bellary district, and particularly, in Sandur, is of the best variety in the world. Recently, one Russian expert, by name Mr. Lorov, has said that the Sandur deposits are of the richest variety in the world. And we have got this in very huge quantities. Therefore, I suggest that some basic industries should be started there.

Then, we have also got the Neiveli lignite. When I asked friends on several occasions that a basic industry should be started there, they said, we want coal, we want electricity, we want this, that and the other. That is all true. I do not say that you can start this industry immediately. But still we must have in mind balanced regional development. That is of the utmost importance in the present context. Otherwise, it will lead to a lot of dissatisfaction in several quarters, and legitimately too.

So far as the Neiveli project is concerned, the integrated plan arrangement will cost about Rs. 78.8 crores, and it is expected to produce about 3.5 million tons of lignite. Beside this coal available from other areas could also be procured for the purpose of starting the basic industry.



Then, there is the Honnemaradu project, to generate electricity, in Mysore. That is expected to produce a large quantity of electricity at a very cheap rate, and I suppose, that would perhaps be the cheapest rate in India, and for industrial undertakings, that would be of very great value. I suggest that all these factors should be taken advantage of fully, and a pig iron plant may be started in Bellary district.

I also learn that some Russian experts are said to be of the opinion that relatively smaller units are possible in modern times. So, I would request the Minister to have an investigation into this matter and examine the possibility of the starting of this industry there.

There is also the possibility of starting a ferro-manganese plant. Besides iron ore of a very rich variety we have also got good manganese ore in this area. So, I suggest that a ferro-manganese plant can be started. Government can start it. Otherwise, private agencies are also willing to start it, and if they start it, I would urge Government to give them every possible assistance in this behalf.

With these words, I accord my full support to the Demand for Grants relating to this Ministry.

Shri P. K. Deo (Kalahandi): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I think it would not be proper to pass the Demands of this Ministry without recording our protest on the working of the Hindustan Steel (Private) Limited, at Rourkela. Though it is estimated that the deficit of about 45 million tons of steel will be made up by the end of Second Five Year Plan, yet from the progress report of this company, we find that no time-limit has been fixed for the production of steel from this factory.

At page 15 of the booklet, "Iron and Steel" published by the Government publications division mention has been made that within the next four years, the plant at Rourkela is expect-

ed to be erected and to start production. That means by about 1961 or 1962, the plant will start production. But in the case of the Bhilai plant, although the construction has started very much after that in Rourkela, they are going to produce steel by the end of 1958. So, much progress has been made in the Bhilai plant, but not so in the Rourkela plant. I would request the Minister to look into this matter and to satisfy this House as to why this delay has been there, so far as the production at Rourkela is concerned.

Coming to the matter of recruitment for various posts in the Hindustan Steel (Private) Limited, though this concern is a national enterprise, still equity demands that the local people should be given preference in the matter of employment, especially the displaced persons, who have been displaced from their lands and from their villages, because of the construction of this steel plant. In this connection, though the local people are told by every quarter that the company is following a policy of giving appointments to the local people in preference to outsiders, provided they are equal in all respect, yet in practice we find just the opposite.

The usual recruitment procedure is not being followed. In 1955, we find that there were hundred trade apprentices appointed through the local employment exchange, but in 1956, we find that 300 such appointments were made from various centres of India without any reference to the local employment exchange. Mr. Davenport, the Director of Employment Exchanges, has submitted a report regarding the appointment policy of this company at Rourkela and has suggested that all the class III and class IV posts should be filled up from among the local applicants. In practice, however, I find that the local people have not been given preference, but personnel have been recruited directly from outside for these class III and class IV posts.

[Shri P. K. Deo]

Lately, there have been many lightning strikes in the Stores Department and in the Public Health Department of this company. Though the grievances of the labourers are reported to be genuine, I do not think the management has properly looked into their grievances. On the other hand, we learn that there were lathi charges by the police on the peaceful demonstration of the employees. If such things happen and if such treatment is meted out to the employees in State-owned enterprises, what example shall we be setting to the employers in the private sector?

Coming to the working of the various schools under the management of the Hindustan Steel Company, it is noticed that the local regional language is not taught in those schools. Though many local people are engaged and their children are studying in the local schools, there is no facility to teach them in the regional language.

Coming to the working of the various manganese mines in Barbil area in Orissa, I would submit that the living conditions of the labourers are far from satisfactory. There are regular strikes, and police firing is a very common thing. When complaints about water scarcity are made to the authorities, no action is taken.

I take this opportunity to bring to the notice of the House that sometime back negotiations were going on between a Japanese firm and the Orissa Government for the export of manganese and iron ores. In return, the Japanese firm promised to build the Paradip port and to lay a railway line from the mine area to the port. But the Central Government stood in the way. I think the proposal is maturing to the disadvantage of Orissa.

It is learnt that for the export of two million tons of iron ore to Japan, the Government of India is going to receive financial aid from the US President's development fund for South East Asia. They are proposing

to have some new berths in the Visakhapatnam port out of the fund. By that deal, Orissa would be losing a port and also a railway line.

Though the demand for the development of the Paradip port would have been relevant in connection with the Demands of the Ministry of Transport and Communications, still I would like to bring to the notice of the House that to relieve the transport bottleneck in the busy port of Calcutta, the Paradip port should be developed so that an outlet would be provided for the manganese and iron ores by the export of which we would be able to earn so much foreign exchange.

Regarding the location of the oil refinery in Assam, I associate myself with the sentiments expressed by my friends on the other side. For all purposes, an oil refinery in Assam is an ideal proposition and I wholeheartedly support it.

Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati): At the outset, I must thank those hon. Members opposite who have supported the idea of an oil refinery in the State of Assam. I thought that justice would after all prevail and it is a very happy thing to see that justice has prevailed. Almost all the Members on the Government Bench who have spoken have supported this idea of locating the oil refinery within that State.

There are some people who try to pooh-pooh the idea and think that it is only a sentimental soap bubble. As a matter of fact, that is not so, because the whole State has risen as one man so far as the location of the refinery in the State is concerned. I want to draw your attention to the fact that the *hartal* and strike observed on the 29th of July was the most peaceful demonstration in the history of the whole State. People have felt that this is their legitimate right and legitimate demand.

When we press our demand for the location of the oil refinery within the



State, we stand on solid ground. I may be permitted to point out that there are three very solid grounds. One is national, another is economic and the third is strategic.

So far as the national ground is concerned, I may be permitted to say that we have the support of the Report of the Planning Commission. I want to lean on this Report and quote from it. It says:

"In any progressive plan of development, it is axiomatic that the special needs of the less developed areas should receive due attention. The pattern of investment must be so devised as to lead to balanced regional development."

This question was specifically discussed in the National Development Council meeting and I would quote from the deliberations of the Council. It says:

"Every effort must be made to provide for balanced development in different parts of the country. A wide diffusion of development nuclei is essential from this point of view."

We always speak of decentralised economy and decentralised industry. That was, if I may say so, the dream for which Gandhiji lived and died. But then, when we come across the sentiments expressed by the Government, we feel that there is a clear violation of the principles and policies that they themselves have adumbrated.

Let me do a little bit of hammering and quote from their own Resolution adopted in 1956. In their Industrial Policy Resolution, the Government say:

"In order that industrialisation may benefit the economy of the country as a whole, it is important that the disparities in levels of development between different regions should be progressively reduced. The lack of industries in different parts of the country

is very often determined by factors such as the availability of necessary raw materials or other industrial resources. Concentration of industries in certain areas has also been due to the ready availability of power, water supply and transport facilities which have been developed there. It is one of the aims of national planning to ensure that these facilities are steadily made available to areas which are lagging behind industrially or where there is greater need for providing opportunities for employment....."

This is the resolution, and there was another resolution. As far as I remember, it was adopted in 1948. These two resolutions together with the deliberations of the Development Council and the Report of the Planning Commission say that there should be an even development of the economy of this country; there ought not to be any economic imbalance and there ought not to be any regional disparity. What about Assam, Sir?

It is on the frontier and I am afraid very few people know about it. It is geographically cut away from the life centre of our nation. It is rich in natural products but it is an agricultural State. According to the Census Report of 1955, 74 per cent of the population here live by agriculture, whereas only 14 per cent of the people live by avocations other than agriculture. The State is industrially most undeveloped; I would rather say, even under freedom this State has not developed industrially. The industrial development of that State is sluggish; I would say, rather poor in spite of the fact that the Brahmaputra is alone capable of producing 5 million kw of electricity according to the Central Irrigation, Navigation and Waterways Commission.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Five Million?

Shri Hem Barua: Yes; 5 million kw. But Government has done nothing for the development of that State. It has been left in the lurch.

[Shri Hem Barua]

It is very rich in natural resources. The British who ruled by their military power converted that State into a colony of exploitation. You find coal, tea and oil etc there. That State was being converted into a colony of exploitation by the British rulers. If I may be permitted to say so, even under conditions of freedom those conditions of exploitation have not changed.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: The British planters are still there.

Shri Hem Barua: The British planters are still there, the British monopolists are still there and the British policy of exploitation is still there. It is a sad commentary on our Government that they are lending support to the monopolists for exploitation.

What about the First Five Year Plan and the Second Five Year Plan? The First Plan came, it raised high dreams of the country having national development, economic development and all that. But Assam does not have any single major industry. It was left out in the First Five Year Plan. You may take me as a provincialist. That is a very cheap slogan and is generally doled out against people whom you do not like or whom you dislike. You may dislike the views.

There is one thing which I want to say. Those States which had major industries under British rule, those States that are industrially developed, industrially far more advanced than the State of Assam, got major industries under the First Five Year Plan and Assam was left out entirely. I can tell you—and it is a fact—that the people of Assam are very hospitable and I can also tell you that they are temperamentally opposed to cheap agitation. The leaders of the Government.

Shri B. S. Murthy (Kakinada—Reserved—Sch. Castes): Is agitation very costly there?

Shri Hem Barua: It is very cheap, not in the ordinary sense of the term, of course I may tell you that it is as cheap as Delhi tap water.

They are incapable of that. The leaders of our Government profess lyrical love and affection for them and go into raptures over the natural beauty of the State. I do not know their Hindi expression for that. I think they say *Kitna Sunder Pranth Hai* or something like that. My knowledge of Hindi is very little. They go almost dramatic about it. They would express all these fine sentiments. They would express the sentiment of love and affection for the State of Assam. I know also a little bit of love and affection including the love of the cat for the mouse. But unless and until they are translated into practice or solid actions, love and affection do not have any meaning.

For instance, Gandhiji loved Assam. In the grouping scheme of the British there was a proposal to sacrifice Assam at the altar of Pakistan. It was Gandhiji who stood up and fought for Assam and saved Assam from the onslaught of Pakistan. We are grateful to him and we want the same history to be repeated by our leaders. But, it is a very sorry thing that they do not want to do that.

There might be some people who may say that I am anti-Indian when I say so. It is not that. I want the development and growth of India as a whole. At the same time, I do not want a disproportionate development of India's growth in the middle by dissipating and withering the limbs in the extremities. That is not a healthy growth. We want a healthy and prosperous Assam in the context of a healthy and prosperous India. That is what we want to see. This disproportionate growth, this imbalance in economic growth is only possible in a Swiftian phantasmagoria. It is not possible in the context of reality. We want to be realists, we want to live an objective and worthy life. We want to build

a new history. We cannot have a life far-flung from the Centre of national life, to wane there and dissipate and die. That is what is happening today.

Now, about the oil refinery. The oil refinery is economically feasible in Assam. That is what the Expert Committee Report—appointed by the Government of India—says. It is also a sad commentary of fact that somehow or other I have gone through the report of the Expert Committee which has been kept a confidential document. They say....

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** Were you taken into confidence by the Government?

**Shri Hem Barua:** I do not know that. It is for you to imagine.

That is the Expert Committee report in spite of the fact that the Assam Oil Company, a firm of British capitalists, had its influence on the members of the committee. I do not make any secret of it. In spite of that influence they have suggested three places for the purpose of locating the oil refinery. One is Gauhati; another is Barauni and the third is Calcutta. This is an economic factor.

We wanted the Government of India to declare forthwith the establishment of the oil refinery within the State of Assam. Instead of doing that they are issuing contradictory statements, making contradictory utterances. Why is it so? Because the Assam Oil Company does not want it to be located within the State of Assam.

Even now on the 15th of July, when I tabled an adjournment motion here, there was a certain statement made and we had the impression that the location of the oil refinery in Barauni was almost a settled fact. That was the news carried by the newspapers.

After that the Members of the Assam Government and the Congress party came and negotiated for 5 days with the personnel of the Government of India. After the negotiations for

5 days there was a Press Note and a statement by the Prime Minister. They were beautifully vague. There was nothing there. They did not make any clear declaration. The only thing they said was that they will have a project report about Gauhati as well. After they thought of the location at Barauni they wanted a project report. At the same time the announcement was beautifully vague. They do not say that they would compare the two project reports and then come to a conclusion or decision. They have not stated that.

On the 5th of August, I had tabled a short notice question. There also the answer was vague. The personnel of the Congress Government of Assam came down to Delhi and in order to console them, these people threw the idea of a project report on Gauhati as a gilded lollipop into the gaping mouth of a weeping child. This is what they did. Lollipops do not nourish anybody.

What are the forces that are working behind? There is the Assam Oil Company. It does not want an oil refinery either at Barauni or at Gauhati. That company is going to subscribe some amount to the capital of the Refinery. It wants the refinery to be established at a port town. What is the idea? They might export oil. In the event of war, they might load barges and transport it away to the international market. They want a rich harvest of profit and thus to exploit us. That is why they do not want it in a place far away from the port because that would prove difficult for them. That is why they have reacted most violently.

I met the Prime Minister on the 23rd and discussed it with him. He was good enough to tell me that the Assam Oil Company—I am quoting him verbatim—had reacted most violently at the suggestion of Barauni. Why is that you have allowed the Assam Oil Company to react violently at the suggestion of Barauni? These foreign exploiters have converted the Middle-East and Algeria and Oman into colonies for their

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economic exploitation. Oil and money have helped them to have some sort of a political gangsterism in the Middle-East. I do not want the history of Algeria and Oman to be repeated in our country but that is what is going to be. We have become the victims in the hands of British monopolists, the Assam Oil Company. On the 15th of July when I mentioned about this, the hon. Ministers were angry. But, in these matters we should be led by facts and not by sentiment. So, these sinister designs of the Assam Oil Company should be nipped in the bud.

I came across a State Minister who had some misgivings. He said "Look here, we cannot afford to displease the Assam Oil Company. That is a British Company. If we do something it will disturb our Commonwealth relations." Disturb the Commonwealth relations! That was strange and romantic and it was made in a romantic way. I know quite a few Ministers who are privileged Romeos and I do not know if he is one. I was taken aback at this talk of Commonwealth. I know a little about this Commonwealth. She is alluring no doubt but she is like Dahlia, a bad woman too, who offers a kiss but conceals a poison sting underneath. The poison sting in the case is the economic exploitation by Britain, the dominant member of the Commonwealth, through the various agencies in this country. They want to increase it and they are applying it in the case of Assam—Digboi and Naharkotiya—and the oil refineries that we propose to establish in this country.

Then let me say a few things about the Experts Committee. They are awfully funny. They did not have any material at their disposal. The Government of India did not supply them with any material whatsoever. They were given hardly two months' time to make a decision. This was a very serious problem. To allow barely two months' time to come to a conclusion on such a serious prob-

lem—if I may use the Prime Minister's word—is fantastic. Then, in the absence of that, they relied entirely on the materials supplied to them by the Assam Oil Company.

I have read this confidential document and there I have come across a very funny thing. They have there thanked the Assam Oil Company for the "valuable assistance they rendered in collecting and compiling a large volume of statistical and other information that was required." They were supplied with statistical and other information by the interested party to base their conclusion on. Is it not a strange phenomenon?

There are three categories of oil reserves: proved, probable and anticipated reserves. The Expert Committee based their conclusions on these results. They relied entirely on the firm appointed by the Assam Oil Company and that was an international firm—De Golyer and Macnaughton. I do not doubt the *bona fides* of this firm of assessors. I want to know why the Government of India did not consider it fit to institute an independent enquiry into it? Why is it that it depended entirely on a firm that was engaged by the Assam Oil Company? I am sorry that the Government of India has allowed itself to be exploited like this.

There are other things about oil production. There are primarily two patterns of production: kerosene intensive and aviation spirit intensive. From the national standpoint and also from the point of view of self-sufficiency, we should have a pattern of production where there is kerosene intensive; we should have that pattern of production; we should have diesel-cum-motor spirit-cum kerosene intensive bias. Our rural areas need kerosene, motor spirit is also needed. Diesel oil is also needed because it was announced on the floor of the House recently that we are going in for dieselisation of our railways. But the Assam Oil Company does not want that. It wants the other pattern of production that is aviation spirit bias.

It is computed that this refinery would produce about 2,05,000 million tons of aviation spirit. India, it is estimated, will consume annually only 90,000 million tons of aviation spirit by 1962. What are we to do with the rest? They would export the rest to the international market so that they may get a larger harvest of profit. That is in the minds of the owners of that company. Not only that. They also want to have a strategic control of this area. There is another point. The jet planes can be propelled by a superior kind of kerosene.

Another suggestion is that the refinery must be situated in an economic area. It is a very sound proposition. But, I can quote instance after instance from the oil history of the world where the refineries are not located in the economic area, i.e. the consumption area. The refined product,—there are instances of it,—is transported to the economic areas by pipelines. I quote from the *Encyclopaedia Americana*, Volume 22

"The main line of the products pipeline from Beaumont, Texas was 20 inches in diameter, was 1475 miles in length of this total, approximately 481 miles was seamless steel. Including feeder lines in the gulf coast area, the system embraced a total of 1706 miles of pipelines. The system was designed to handle several kinds of refined petroleum products pumped through the line in successive batches without any mechanical separation between the different products and with relatively little mixing of one product with another."

There are instances in the oil history of the world; refined oil can be transported through the pipes. It is quite strange and fantastic that the expert committee people suggested—and the Government believed it,—that refined products cannot be transported by pipelines and that only raw and crude oil can be transported.

There is another difficulty about the transport of Assam crude oil. It

has a high percentage of wax and during winter, you will have to employ booster pumping stations and heat exchangers at an interval of 20 or 30 miles which would go to add to the additional capital cost. The expert committee cleverly and conveniently forgot this.

14 hrs.

One of the factors as said already is the need of the location of the refinery in the economic area, i.e. the consumption area. In this connection I want to tell you one thing. The national policy in locating such projects is the availability of raw materials. If it were not for this Rourkela would not have got an Iron and Steel plant, and Bhilai in Madhya Pradesh would not have got an Iron and Steel plant either. They are getting these plants only because of that national policy. We have one policy for one set of people and another policy for another set of people. This is known as, shall I say, favouritism.

There is another excuse, a very fine excuse about the transport bottleneck and all that. Can you think of a State that is cut off from the rest of India by a railway line that fails regularly during the monsoons? Recently it has failed and there have been as many as seven breaches in that railway line, i.e. the Assam Railway link line which runs through the one-time princely state of Cooch Behar through a narrow corridor of about 40 miles. I think Danzig was only a little less wide. What about the carrying capacity of this railway line? It carries only 14 per cent of the tea traffic, whereas the rest is lifted by the river companies. That is the fate. The railway transport has to be stabilised. It has to be developed irrespective of the fact where the oil refinery is going to be located, i.e. independent of the location of the oil refinery. If it is said that the railway line will be stabilised, so far so good. That is what the Railway Ministry has said. At the same time, it is held out by some people that it might happen that in spite of the fact that the railway

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line is developed it may not have the capacity to carry the finished product. The finished products might be carried—one should remember, by pipeline also.

On the 15th July the Prime Minister added another reason to it. He said that there are defence reasons. With regard to defence reasons, there is another beautiful thing about Gauhati. It will be a consolidated pattern. It will have not only a refinery, it will have a power generating plant and a fertiliser plant, all for economic reasons. You want to have a refinery outside Assam and carry the crude oil from Naharkatiya field to that refinery. There is a pipeline. If you cannot defend the pipeline how can you propose to defend the oil fields in case of a war? Defence is always a consolidated programme, it is always a consolidated pattern. Therefore, I would invite the attention of the Government to defend not only the oil fields but also the refinery and the transport line. These three things would form a consolidated pattern of defence and the three things are to be defended together.

In this connection I want to say one thing about the last World War. There is a small refinery and an oil field in Digboi. Actually the enemies came and knocked at our doors. The enemies came and bombarded the District of Lakhimpur where the Digboi oil field is located. But, somehow or other the refinery was saved.

What about Barauni, and what about Gauhati? Barauni is 170 miles away from the Pakistan border. Gauhati is 146½ miles away from the Pakistan border. The pipeline that is calculated to carry the oil from Gauhati would be 72 miles away at places from the border of Pakistan whereas the pipeline that would carry crude oil to Barauni would be within 20 miles of the Pakistan border at places. These are the facts.

In spite of the declaration of the Experts Committee that Gauhati is

economically and technically feasible, in spite of the fact that it is our national policy to remove regional disparity, in spite of the fact that the people of Assam are one in their demand for the location of the oil refinery,—I do not want to dole out a warning but I want to do a little bit of soothsaying—I want to tell you, you have the oil refinery out of Assam, only on our bones.

Mr. Chairman: The following are the selected cut motions relating to the Demands under the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel which have been indicated by the Members to be moved subject to their admissibility

Demand No.	No of Cut Motion
78	1385 to 1390
79	571 to 573, 790 to 792, 794 to 796, 1376 to 1379, 1391, 1392.

*Policy of Leaving lignite-mines Newell to a corporation*

Shri Tangamani (Madurai): I beg to move

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Steel, Mines & Fuel' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Failure to start Iron and Steel Industries in Madras State*

Shri Tangamani: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Steel, Mines & Fuel' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Failure to develop magnesite mines in Salem*

Shri Tangamani: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Steel, Mines & Fuel' be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Failure to carry out explorations for oil in Madras State*

Shri Tangamani: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Steel, Mines & Fuel' be reduced by Rs. 100."

**Failure to reduce prices of petroleum products**

**Shri Tangamani:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Steel, Mines & Fuel' be reduced by Rs 100."

**Need to improve conditions in manganese mines in Gavaripadna in Sindhuwada District in Madhya Pradesh**

**Shri Tangamani:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Steel, Mines & Fuel' be reduced by Rs 100"

**Low output in the coal mines in the public sector**

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** I beg to move

"That the demand under the head 'Mines' be reduced by Rs 100"

**Refusal of grant to Singareni collieries during 1956-57**

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** I beg to move

"That the demand under the head 'Mines' be reduced by Rs 100"

**Delay in the examination of the Report of the Committee on the Amalgamation of Small Collieries**

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** I beg to move

"That the demand under the head 'Mines' be reduced by Rs 100"

**Closure of Rajaur Collieries, Yeotmal District, Bombay State**

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Mines' be reduced by Rs. 100."

**Closure of Mandalpur Collieries, West Bengal**

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Mines' be reduced by Rs 100"

**Closure of Singaran Collieries, West Bengal**

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** I beg to move

"That the demand under the head 'Mines' be reduced by Rs 100"

**Question of nationalisation of Manganese Mines**

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** I beg to move

"That the demand under the head 'Mines' be reduced by Rs 100"

**Need to nationalise the Coal Mines**

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** I beg to move

"That the demand under the head 'Mines' be reduced by Rs 100"

**Interim price increase of coal by Rs. 1.8-0 per ton**

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** I beg to move

"That the demand under the head 'Mines' be reduced by Rs 100"

**Postponement of the drilling operations**

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** I beg to move

"That the demand under the head 'Mines' be reduced by Rs 100"

**Proper consumption of coal by the consumers**

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** I beg to move

"That the demand under the head 'Mines' be reduced by Rs. 100."



*Need for the location of low temperature carbonisation plant at Kothagudem, Andhra Pradesh*

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** I beg to move

"That the demand under the head 'Mines' be reduced by Rs 100"

*Functions of Coal Board*

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** I beg to move

"That the demand under the head 'Mines' be reduced by Rs 100"

*Elimination of Oriya language from the curriculum of studies in the schools run by the Hindusthan Steel Company at Rourkela*

**Shri Mahanty (Dhenkanal).** I beg to move

"That the demand under the head 'Mines' be reduced by Rs 100"

*Treatment of labourers and other workers engaged by the Hindusthan Steel Company at Rourkela*

**Shri Mahanty:** I beg to move.

"That the demand under the head 'Mines' be reduced by Rs 100"

**Mr Chairman:** These cut motions are before the House

**Shri Basappa (Tiptur):** Mr Chairman, Sir, after the eloquent and oratoric speech of my hon friend from Assam I feel that my speech may be a little stale but, nonetheless, I would like to say a few things about iron and steel. Before I do so, my hon friend from Assam has told us about the location of the oil refinery, and he is very much agitated over that issue as everyone in the House is. But, the assurance that has been given by our hon. Prime Minister the other day will go a long way in doing justice

to this problem. I hope all the facts that have been stated now will be taken note of by the Government and some justice will be done to Assam as Assam deserves every sympathy from this House.

There were several hon speakers before me, one speaking on coal as though he is an expert, one on oil and so on. My hon friend from Mysore has spoken about steel also. Now that Mysore has undertaken some work in the direction of iron and steel I thought I should also take part in this debate.

Because of the importance of this Ministry in the industrial development of this country, we have to appreciate and admire the laudable objects of this Ministry. When we say that iron and steel is required for a very large number of purposes—my friend Shri T. Subramanyam just now narrated them—we can see in which direction the development of our country lies.

Many of our great personages have also dealt on this aspect of the question. Recently our hon Finance Minister, Shri T. T. Krishnamachari has told us

"Today I find that the only stable commodity on which I can depend in order to build up resources for repayment of foreign loans happens to be steel."

This is one statement of our Finance Minister. Then he goes on to say

"Our tea exports might not expand, our textiles might contract, our jute exports might go down, but the only commodity the world will accept from any country in future on a barter basis or cash basis would be steel."

This is what our Finance Minister said. Then, coming to our Prime Minister, he has also given great importance to this aspect of the question. Our Prime Minister said—

"We are tied up with big undertakings. We cannot delay. We can-



not cut down the steel plants. The big mistake that we made was that we did not, partly at least, go in for that steel plant in the First Plan."

So, our Prime Minister is ready to confess that we made a little mistake in the First Plan. Therefore, when we take into consideration the Second Five Year Plan we begin with certain things a great deal of which we ought to have prepared in the First Plan itself.

Anyhow, we are all proud of the three gigantic steel plants that are going up in our country. We are all proud of them and we wish them every godspeed, so that they may come into full production within the scheduled time.

When I say this, I am fully aware of how backward we are in the matter of steel production in this country. My friend has already quoted facts and figures to show where U.S.A. stands, where U.K. stands and where our country stands in the matter of production of steel in the world. When nearly 100 million tons are manufactured in the United States, about 40 million tons are manufactured in the U.S.S.R. and about 20 million tons in the United Kingdom and Germany, we are having only one million tons of steel. The progress and the economic development of the country is also measured by the consumption of steel by an individual. It has been said that our consumption is only 12 pounds per individual, compared to nearly 1,000 pounds by an individual in the rest of the world. All these facts show that we are very backward and that we should not continue any longer in the present state of affairs. Even considering the long tradition that we had in the past including the Iron Pillar to which reference was made, we continue to be backward in the matter of steel. But all these facts will show that we have a great future for this country in the matter of production of steel. A great beginning has been made, and credit must

also be given to the original producers of iron and steel, when everything was imported into this country from other countries. The Tatas have made a very good beginning. The Iron and Steel Company of Bengal, the Tata Iron and Steel Works and also the Bhadravati Iron and Steel Works equally receive our compliments in the direction.

Looking to the requirements of our second Five Year Plan, we see that since the first Five Year Plan, as I told you, we have not achieved much. From 1.1 million tons, we were able to come up only to 1.3 million tons, the difference being only .2. But in the second Five Year Plan, our aim has been to produce 4.3 million tons of steel. This is a good augury. But I fear whether we can keep up to this schedule, because the arrangements in the first Five Year Plan were lacking, so much so that we have to turn all our attention to these things. Now that our targets are there, our finance is the most important thing, because, as I see it, so far as the estimates for the steel plants are concerned, the original estimates do not stand. If we had Rs. 300 crores for these steel plants, it now comes up to Rs. 400 crores. I am speaking roughly. In one steel plant, if we had aimed at Rs. 138 crores, it has come up to Rs. 170 crores. Similar is the case with regard to other steel plants. There are reasons for that also. So, we have to be very careful with regard to these estimates and we must see that these steel plants come up according to schedule. When all these steel plants come up and the expansion programme in the private sector and also in the public sector goes high, I think we will have a bright future.

I am very happy that the Ministry is engaging itself towards the expansion of the existing units also. The Tatas will double their production and they have been given nearly Rs. 19 crores by way of loan, and the Iron

[Shri Basappa]

and Steel Works, Calcutta, is also increasing its production. The Bhadravati Iron and Steel Works will also increase its production from 30,000 tons to one million tons of steel in the second Five Year Plan. So, the expansion programme is there. When I see all these things, the entire development of the country is sure to proceed well.

We have many advantages through the development of these plants also, because we know, as a matter of fact, that we are spending nearly Rs. 200 crores by way of foreign exchange to import the materials and we do know that the foreign exchange trouble is there. On the other hand, if we are able to produce more of steel in this country and if we can export it also, we may earn more foreign exchange. We have to import nearly at the rate of Rs. 600 per ton, whereas, if we produce steel ourselves, we expect to sell it, as we are told, at Rs. 400 per ton. So there will be so much of advantage by having all these plants in our country itself.

Now that the Ministry is re-organised, I want to say a word or two about it. It is all very good. It will be in the interests of development of our mineral resources as well as steel production. I like it. But there is one thing which I want to say. I am not in a mood to give any caution or anything like that, but I still say that the change of portfolios of Ministers so soon would not be very helpful. I say this because I notice the change of portfolio, now and then. Of course, it becomes very inevitable sometimes. But when a Minister has delved deep into certain subjects and he is very well-versed in the location of the steel plants and also in the development of them, when his thinking goes in a particular way, I feel that there should not be a change soon. It is not that the present hon. Minister is not fit. He has done a very good job in the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply and I am quite certain that

he will deal with the steel plants in a very efficient manner. I have no doubt about that. But still, I would say that the frequent change of portfolios can be avoided, though I welcome the re-organisation of this Ministry. I do not say much on that aspect.

Now, the trained personnel that we require for the big steel plants is very enormous. From now on, we must prepare our youngmen to become steel experts, send our men abroad to obtain fresh knowledge. We must have such trained men ready so that when our steel production comes to full efficiency, they will be able to handle all these things well.

When I say all these things in a general way, I should like to say a few words about the Iron and Steel Works at Bhadravati, Mysore, the State from which I come. I must say—and I cannot help saying it—that it has been receiving a step-motherly treatment at the hands of the Government here, because its development programme has been cut down from Rs. 11 crores to Rs. 6 crores. Originally, we included our stainless steel factory at Bhadravati. A small unit like Bhadravati will be very suitable for stainless steel. Everyone recognises it. Now, I do not know why things are not taking a proper shape. The allotment has been cut down. When I say this, you should not neglect the iron and steel works which are in the public sector already. You are trying to have more steel plants, bigger steel plants, in the public sector. But I might remind the House that when there was no plant at all in the country, it was the Bhadravati Iron and Steel Works that showed the way, and so such a factory should not be neglected now. We are asking for the supply of coal from the railways, but even that has been denied. The billets are not supplied. The production of high-grade steel, for which Bhadravati Works are specially known, can be given greater encouragement there. Bhadravati can specialise in the pro-

duction of high-grade steel. That has been stated very often.

**Shri Ranga (Tenali):** That was the first factory in India.

**Mr. Chairman:** The hon. Member's time is up.

**Shri Basappa:** I would not take much time. I have to say a few words about the iron and steel control. It is not very satisfactory. I must say a few words about it, and I request you to give me one or two minutes more. The rural parts are not getting iron and steel at all. The right purpose is neglected many a time and sometimes the permits happen to be bogus permits. The very person goes and sells the permits to the very merchant from whom he takes it. There is no fair transaction at all. Such things happen so much so that the right individual does not get the thing and the right purpose is not served. For example, for agricultural production, my State was given 2,036 tons in 1956-57, but in 1957-58, they have given an allotment of only 740 tons to my State. 1,400 tons are absent. How can agricultural production and food production go on in the country if the ryots have not got enough steel? From this we can see how iron and steel will have to be reorganised properly and the small-scale industries and the co-operative societies should get a larger share. There is not of black-marketing also. The prosecutions that are launched are not able to stop this black-marketing. Now that we are short of steel to a very great extent, it must be worked efficiently and the right persons should be entrusted with this work.

Lastly, coming to nationalisation, the nationalisation of the Mysore gold mines was inevitable and a lot of money has been spent there for finding out new gold ore mines. The previous company, John Taylor and Company did not spend anything at all and therefore, there was a lot of heart-breaking among the Mysore people that it should be nationalised. Now it has been nationalised and I am glad to know that it is working at

some profit. But still a serious situation may arise when we have to spend a lot of money in finding out new ore and all that. Now that the Government of India has been generous to give a large compensation to the gold mining company, they should also come forward to help the Mysore Government to carry on this national undertaking. The test of our national public undertaking lies on how we carry on these things and therefore, the Central Government will take these things into consideration and help the nationalised gold mines in the Mysore State.

**Shri S. V. Ramaswami (Salem):** The previous speaker dealt with the changes in portfolios of Ministers. It is too delicate a ground for me to tread, but what I can legitimately point out to this House is that in the allocation of subjects to the various Ministries, there does not seem to be any rationalisation. The geological survey seems to have been allotted to the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research, whereas the Bureau of Mines comes under this Ministry. It is far better that both fall under this Ministry instead of being split up like this, because mines and minerals are essential matters concerning this Ministry and if the geological survey is taken away and placed under some other Ministry, there cannot be proper co-ordination. I hope that Government will take early steps to see that the geological survey is transferred to this Ministry.

Incidentally I may point out that the geological survey needs more activation. The survey reports that we have are very old; they are not modern and up-to-date. They were carried on at a time when technological advancement was not very far. The methods by which the surveys were carried on were somewhat crude and primitive. Science has advanced so far now that it is high time the geological survey is strengthened and modern methods of surveying minerals are carried out in a more intensive manner. There is enormous wealth underground and even the surveys at

[Shri S. . Ramaswami]

are, to my mind, not correct. I hope the Ministry will pay great attention to this and see that the surveys are up-to-date and also accurate.

My friends from Assam are naturally agitated over the question of the location of the oil refinery. I have no desire to enter into that controversy. But I have been studying the principles and the way in which oil companies function and it is somewhat difficult to understand how the refinery can be located in a place where there is not much of consumption and how refined oil can be distributed over long distances. I am talking as a layman who has studied the economics of oil installations. If, for instance, they locate it in Gauhati, it is not a consuming centre and refined oil has got to be distributed over several hundreds of miles. First of all, it seems to be not technically feasible to transfer refined oil through pipelines....

An Hon. Member: It is done in America.

Shri S. V. Ramaswami: We are not living in America; we are living in India. Unless there are consuming centres on the way, it may not be economically feasible to carry refined oil over long distances. Anyhow, it is not for us to enter into that controversy. It is so to say a *sub judice* matter.

What I am really concerned with is the pricing of oil in this country. Sometime ago, the price of petroleum was raised by about an anna. Thinking of those days when Russian petrol came, you will remember that we were able to get a gallon of oil for 15 annas; in Madras port it was even less. They were golden days when petrol was cheap. When we think of the present price of Rs. 3.30. per gallon, one wonders whether we will ever go back to those days when we were getting a gallon of petrol for less than a rupee.

In the matter of pricing of oil in this country, there seems to be a hush-hush method. We exactly do not

know how the prices are arrived at. Broadly the position seems to be that the Burma-Shell oil company has what they call the VSA method—value stock account method—which seems to be the basis for fixing the price. In all other refineries, they have no independent pricing system; they follow the lead given by Burma-Shell. The elements which enter into the VSA method do not seem to be clear. For one thing, there are no Government auditors. The auditors on behalf of Government cannot go in and look into the accounts and check up whether items which have gone into the accounting are correct or not. Whatever is given as VSA has got to be accepted as gospel truth.

It also appears that the main item seems to be the CIF about which I shall presently tell something. After that, they have got the post-CIF accounts, which seem to account for Rs. 20 to Rs. 30 crores per annum. I am given to understand that there is a lot of manipulation possible in the post-CIF accounts and items which need not be entered seem to be entered; yet, Government seems to be powerless. With regard to this CIF price also, there seems to be a wide disparity in the prices quoted by these companies for oil that is transported for use in India and oil that goes out of India. The CIF price for sale in India for motor spirit is given to be Rs. 202 per ton, whereas the FOB price for export is Rs. 179. Similarly, for furnace oil, the CIF price for sale in India seems to be Rs. 103 and the FOB price for export is Rs. 83. How are these figures worked out? We are powerless to find it out. How the price is ultimately fixed has got to be examined.

It would also appear that we are paying prices for petrol and other mineral oils which are much more than in other countries. In July, 1956, for instance, the Bombay price for petrol was ls. 10½d. whereas the price in London or in any port in France was ls. 7d. In Colombo, it was 1 sh. 8d. Why should we alone be called upon to pay extra amounts is a matter

for investigation. Similarly for aviation petrol, in Bombay, the price was 2 sh. 8½ d. whereas in London it was 2 sh. 2½ d. It stands to reason that the prices ought really to go down because, for one thing, the productive capacity of these refineries has doubled. The initial rated capacity of Burma-Shell was given out as 1.5 million tons. It has actually risen to 2 million tons and it may well go up to 2.5 million tons. Even so, for Standard Vacuum, the initial rated capacity was 19,000 barrels. It has gone up to 31,000 barrels and it may well go up to 33,000 barrels. Similarly, for Caltex, the productive capacity has almost doubled. Naturally, we should expect, owing to the large-scale economies, the prices to go down. On the other hand, prices tend to rise. These are matters which need investigation. I suggest that Government may think of having their own auditors to check these figures. Also, it would be worth while to appoint a Committee to go into the question of the pricing system. Thirdly, I would very much desire that a refinery is set up in the public sector quickly so that we might know the secrets of this big business. If we know the secrets, very possibly, we might be able to bring more pressure to bear upon these private companies which are imperialists in themselves.

I now switch on to some other points which are of some importance to the south. Salem iron ore has been sent in wagons two or three years ago for metallurgical examination. I do not know whether it comes under this department. I just skip through the several items.

**An Hon. Member:** It comes under Education.

**Shri S. V. Ramaswami:** Because, there is so much confusion.

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** All right; the hon. Member may go on.

**Shri S. V. Ramaswami:** There is no co-ordination. Salem iron ore,—iron ore from Salem, the district from which I come,—and some lignite from

Neiveli were sent for the purpose of test. Two or three years have passed. Nothing has come out. The period of gestation seems to be prolonged. I do not know when the results will be out.

**Shri Jaganatha Rao (Koraput):** Still-born.

**Shri S. V. Ramaswami:** My hon. friend suggests something else. I hope it would not be like that. These investigations try one's patience. This need of having an iron and steel plant, the possibility of it is so great, is intensely felt in the south. If this matter is agitating the minds of the people in the south, why is there such a delay? Why can't some more energy be put into it or urgency felt in this matter, so that, even though immediately we may not have a full-blown iron and steel plant as we have in Tatanagar, as we are going to have in this region, the results of these investigations might be helpful in the setting up of low shaft furnaces, a number of them, all over this district and the neighbouring district of Coimbatore. We may be able to produce pig iron in large quantities. After all, we need 800,000 tons of pig iron for the foundries in India, per annum. Even if we could not produce the whole lot, to the extent that we produce, we would relieve the iron and steel factories of the necessity to produce pig iron for the foundries. I hope the Ministry will take some urgent steps to see that some results come out.

The other point is about the lignite project. Every hope is being pinned on the success of the lignite project. The entire face of South India will change in its industrial aspect. Without lignite, I cannot conceive of South India progressing industrially. Therefore, it needs every effort on the part of the Ministry to see that this project is implemented as quickly as possible. I have heard,—I hope it is not true,—some murmurs that enough foreign exchange is not being spared for the necessary things which may halt or slow down the progress

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of the lignite project. I hope, no consideration, not even the consideration of exchange shortage, will stand in the way of the implementation of this vital project, so vital for the progress of the south.

One other point I wish to urge is about the stocks of coal and coke. Oftentimes, power fails in the south because ours is mostly hydro-electric power and it depends on the rains in Coorg if the power houses in Sivassamudram and Mettur have to produce power. We have had this difficulty and during the last five or six years, almost every alternate year, we have had power cuts even to the tune of 65 per cent or 75 per cent. Naturally, that has got an adverse effect on the industries, labour employed, and the prosperity of the south. In order to see that this shortage does not occur, I would earnestly submit that more thermal stations be set up there in order to balance and give an even amount of current. For that and also for the industries in the south, I submit, it is necessary to build up stock of coal and coke to meet any contingency. Oftentimes, I receive frantic appeals and letters from industrialists asking me to go and see the Minister and send some coal and coke urgently. Last year, it took place. The position seems to be somewhat better this year. But, we cannot be sure that in the future also, the same thing will continue. The only safety lies in building up a huge stock in Madras or some other port so that these may be rushed wherever there is necessity.

As regards the question of oil exploration, I earnestly request the hon. Minister not to concentrate on the north alone in Jwalamukhi area. The Russian experts have reported about the possibility of finding oil in the Cauvery delta, in which, Mr. Chairman, you are very much interested.

Mr. Chairman: I am interested in the whole of India.

Shri S. V. Ramaswami: I do submit that the Minister in charge of oil drilling will be pleased to have one batch working in the south as well.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Including the Godavari Delta.

Shri Narasimhan (Krishnagiri): Mr. Chairman, my hon. friend Shri S. V. Ramaswami was referring to oil prospecting in the south. I want to have some information from the Minister on the subject. Last session, it was said that a German expert mission went there and undertook some investigation. It was also said in the House that they have made some report and that the Government and the Oil and Natural Gas Division were examining the report. I would like to know whether the examination has been completed and what that has led to. This morning a question was put about many of these things and the reply given about these things was not satisfactory. We were told that they were still being considered. I want in particular to know what was the result of the examination of the German experts who went to the south and made certain observations and reports. I would like the hon. Minister to take this House into confidence about it.

This Ministry, particularly the Mines Division, has been asked to undertake a great burden since the First and the Second Plans decided upon big scale industrialisation of the country. The Ministry of Mines have been bearing the burden all the period and they have acquitted themselves very well. Steel and Iron projects and production of other minerals etc. require a lot of preliminary work by this Ministry. With their limited technical strength they have been doing quite a lot. But it should not go on at this attenuated form. The Ministry's burdens are very heavy. A lot of technical men are required. The Plan will fail if the requisite technical men are not forthcoming.



Particularly, the education on mining and metallurgy should receive very great attention. They no doubt have a college somewhere in Dhanbad. They are also contemplating strengthening it. I want that one or two more colleges distributed in the distant parts of the country. Take, for instance, Madras State. It is in South India. On one side of it we have got the Mysore State. Then in Madras itself we have got the lignite project. Rs 40 crores to Rs 60 crores are going to be spent on it. A lot of spade work is necessary and want of technical men may upset the programme. Therefore I want that greater stress should be laid on getting proper mining engineers and on strengthening the educational side.

Regarding mineral production, we have an export drive for everything. But it surprises me to find that a thing like gypsum is being imported in large quantities. We are very rich in gypsum ore. Maybe the quality is not as high as we would like. Sindri factory needs gypsum. I am told that till April this year a quarter of a crore of rupees worth of gypsum was imported from outside. I do not like this state of affairs. The Government side and their financial and economic experts may glibly say, we must have free trade and we must allow things to come from abroad so that we may export other things. But there is one thing called Swadeshi and Swadeshi will give economic strength. We have gypsum in abundant quantity and it can be used in our Sindri factory. If the quality is not good enough, what are our research institutions doing about it? Are they contemplating a satisfactory method of beneficiating, enriching and upgrading the gypsum that we have in such large quantities?

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** Is upgrading also done in the Swadeshi pattern?

**Shri Narasimhan:** Yes, it should be. It is very natural. I do feel that we can thereby upgrade ourselves. We want promotion of ourselves. In the same way, I would very much like effort being made for the beneficiation of this gypsum. If gypsum of

good quality is available reasonably near Sindri—not like the present arrangement under which we are getting it from far away places like Rajasthan or Pakistan—even if it is 500 miles nearer, and if we can upgrade it in a satisfactory manner, it will greatly strengthen the efficient working of the Sindri factory.

The other day I came across a report in which figures were given about the export as well as the import of minerals. I found that we are still importing a lot of sulphur. I want that something should be done about that. We must produce it locally because sulphuric acid is necessary not only for our industry but also for our defence.

**Mr. Chairman:** There is a report about sulphur in the Himalayas in today's papers.

**Shri Narasimhan:** It has to be explored.

**The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya):** It has to be brought from the Himalayas. It is a huge problem.

**Shri Narasimhan:** It is easy to bring it from high level to low level.

**Shri S. V. Ramaswami:** You can have aerial ropeway.

**Shri Narasimhan:** About the lignite project I want an assurance. The Prime Minister, inaugurated the mining operations described as "removal of the overburden". I want an assurance that this work will go on satisfactorily and the target set for production of a particular quantity of lignite at a particular period will be adhered to and, as my friend Shri Ramaswami earnestly urged, the foreign exchange needed for the necessary machinery will be given ungrudgingly.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** No periodical targets.

**Shri Narasimhan:** Regarding the set-up of the Ministry I am very happy that iron and steel and mines have come under one Ministry. But, as my

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friend Shri Ramaswami has pointed out, the separation of the Geological Survey from the Indian Bureau of Mines is quite confusing. It leads to duplication of work. Sometimes both the Ministries may neglect a work. It may become none's baby.

Shri S. V. Ramaswami: An orphan.

Shri Narasimhan: I do not want such a danger. In the interest of economy and efficiency these two departments should come under one Ministry.

Then I have a grievance against the way in which an answer was given to me this morning to one of my Unstarred Questions. I wanted information as to what the Indian Bureau of Mines and the Geological Survey have planned for the State of Madras under the Second Five Year Plan and I expected an answer. I was surprised to receive the answer I got. Of course, the particular Ministry which we are discussing has nothing to do with geological survey but the question referred to the Indian Bureau of Mines also. After I have given ten days' notice, they say they are collecting figures. I am not able to understand that. I think that ten days' time is more than enough to compile the figures and submit it to the House. In this case they may have justifiable reasons for the delay. But, normally speaking, I think the answer should be forthcoming as early as possible, particularly because when we discuss the budget proposals such information helps the members to see whether anything has to be said by them about these things. No doubt it is stated that the reply will be placed on the Table of the House. There may be some reason. I only suggest that the Minister should go into the question and find out why even some kind of tentative answer was not supplied when ten days' time was given. I have nothing more to say.

Mr. Chairman: I would be calling Mr. Kasliwal, Mr. Menon and then Mr. Guba.

Shri Kasliwal (Kotah): I rise to support the demands for grants under this Ministry.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon (Mukandapuram):.....and also to congratulate.

Shri Kasliwal: I know that this Ministry has been working with quite efficiency. Occasionally iron and steel are flashed into headlines. But the activities of this Ministry continue unruffled.

Most of the hon. Members who have spoken before me have spoken on oil, on iron, steel and coal. I want to refer to some other matters, particularly, to non-ferrous metals. My friend Shri T. B. Vittal Rao knows that non-ferrous metals are a passion with me, for I feel that the Ministry has not given as much attention to the development and expansion of the production of these metals, as they ought to have given.

Shri Ranga: Most of them are being imported.

Shri Kasliwal: I would like to refer you to the First Five Year Plan in order to give you an idea of the state of affairs, so far as copper, lead and zinc are concerned. The Plan says at page 398:

"India's reserves of non-ferrous metals are inadequate with poor resources of copper, lead and zinc and practically no deposit of tin. The following table gives the annual production and consumption in 1950."

From the table, we find that the percentage of deficiency in copper was 84 per cent, the percentage of deficiency in zinc was 100 per cent, and that in the case of lead was 96 per cent.

In 1950, we were importing these three metals to the tune of Rs. 16 crores a year, and I believe, after our industrial expansion and rise in industrial production, we are probably



importing these metals to the tune of over Rs. 20 crores; probably, the figure has now gone up to Rs. 25 crores. It is my contention that although we have been spending so much of money by way of foreign exchange on the import of these metals, we have spent precious little in the matter of the development of these ores in the country itself.

In 1939-40, the average production of copper ore was 3,73,000 tons. In 1951, the production of copper ore actually became less; it was 3,69,000 tons. I do not know what the present state of affairs is, so far as copper is concerned; it may be just the same or it may have actually fallen.

Copper ore is found mostly in two States, in Singhbhum in Bihar and in Rajasthan. I do not know what the state of affairs in Bihar is. The Indian Copper Corporation, as I understand it, may be exploiting this to some extent. But so far as Rajasthan is concerned, the position is very bad. The concessions in regard to the Khetri mines, which, I believe, have the largest deposits, were given to a company known as the Jaipur Mining Co. But for the last fifteen years, that company has done absolutely nothing. I am very glad that the attention of the Minister has now been drawn to this. Probably, the Minister gave an assurance in the House the other day that it is proposed to terminate the concessions to this company; if that is so, then I welcome it very much. But I would like to tell the Minister that if he is going to give the concession to a private company again, let him not do so. It is better that these copper mines are now exploited in the public sector and not in the private sector. A similar concession was given in the Alwar State, with regard to the Daribo mines, to another company, and I believe, that company also has failed completely.

In the report of the Ministry, it has been stated that so far as the Khetri and the Daribo mines are concerned, they will be engaged in structural mapping. I do not know how far

structural mapping alone will go in the matter of the production of this very important metal. I do submit that if the Minister takes it into his head to do something about these mines, a lot of foreign exchange will be saved.

Then, I would like to refer to lead and zinc. These have figured quite prominently during the last five years during question hour in this House, because there is practically only one mine which can give some lead and zinc in our country, and that is the Zawar mine. The Minister has already gone and seen that mine, and it was his view that there was enough of lead and zinc in that mine to last the country for at least 20 years. But what has been done for the development of these mines? These mines started working in 1945. The concession was given to a company known as the Metal Corporation. Certain moneys were advanced to this corporation. But what has this corporation done? Till 1955, the average production of ore was only about 5,000 or 6,000 tons. That is a very bad state of affairs. When I drew the attention of the Minister to this, he promised to look into it.

Subsequently, I came to know that a sum of Rs. 30 lakhs more had been advanced to this Metal Corporation, so that they could put up some sort of zinc smelter. I do not know what the position is now, but I would very much like that the Minister gives his personal attention to this matter, so that, again, we shall be able to save a great deal of foreign exchange in the matter of lead and zinc.

Now, I want to refer to another very important foreign exchange-earner, and that is mica. Mica is found in Bihar and in Rajasthan.

Shri Ranga: In Andhra Pradesh also.

Shri Kasiwal: I am very glad that my hon. friend shares some wealth with me, so far as mica is concerned.

[Shri Kasliwal]

But I have seen certain mines in Rajasthan, and I would like to tell Minister that the way these mines are being worked is very bad. The working of these mines has to be rationalised. The mines are being ruined at present; not much of mica is being taken out, but the mines are being ruined. They merely scratch the surface and leave the mines in a very bad condition. This kind of thing must not go on. I believe the concessionaires must be told that if they are not going to work the mines properly, the concessions given to them will be terminated. That is the only way of ensuring the proper working of these mines.

With regard to mica, we were told in the First Five Year Plan that there was a large quantity of mica going to waste, and, therefore, it was proposed to establish a micanite industry. But I do not know what has happened to that proposal. At page 404 of the First Five Year Plan, it is stated:

"Large quantities of micanite or built-up mica are consumed in the electrical equipment industry and the bulk of this has to be imported as domestic production is very negligible. The possibility of setting up an adequate micanite industry which would meet the country's requirements of this material remains to be investigated."

I would like to know what investigations have been made during the last five years, whether any project report about this micanite factory has been prepared or not, and if it has been prepared, whether it is proposed to proceed with the establishment of this factory.

Lastly, I want to refer to another mineral, to which Shri Narasimhan has already made a reference, and that is gypsum. As you know, gypsum next to coal and iron, is the most important mineral for the industrial development of this country. I know the Minister has been taking pains not merely to investigate further areas

for gypsum, but, certain new places are also being investigated. For instance, I am told that a huge mining area has recently been opened, known as the Uttarlai area, and from there, a certain quantity of gypsum is being taken to Sindri.

While all this is being done, I do not know what Government are doing with regard to gypsum in Kutch and Saurashtra, because we have been told nothing about the large deposits that are reported to be found in Saurashtra area. In my State, in Jodhpur, Bikaner and Jaisalmer, we have the largest deposits of gypsum, so, far as this country is concerned. I am not in a position at the present moment to complain much about the working of the gypsum mines in my State, but so far as Saurashtra is concerned, there is some cause for complaint.

I am not saying anything at this stage about the establishment of another fertiliser factory in Rajasthan. I know that in that matter Rajasthan has been side-tracked. I know that in that matter Rajasthan has not been given fair treatment. But that is a matter which I will refer to at some other time.

15 hrs.

**Shri Narayanankutty Menon:** In discussing the Demands of this Ministry, I shall try to confine myself to that head known as Petroleum Division.

When my hon. friend from Assam tried to substantiate his case on behalf of his State for the location of the oil refinery there, my hon. friend, Shri S. V. Ramaswami purported to answer the charges levelled by the hon. Member from Assam. I consider the answers to these charges as having been born out of his habituating himself to an over-anxiety to defend those who are sitting on the Treasury Benches in front of him.

He revealed one of the most technical secrets of the oil industry when he said that refined petroleum could

not be pumped through the pipeline. I do not know whether he is ignorant of the fact....

**Shri S. V. Ramaswami:** I said it would be difficult and costly.

**Shri Narayanankutty Menon:** ...that when it was found necessary by the Iraqi Petroleum Company for strategic reasons to pump refined petrol or oil from Iraq to Haifa, the company constructed a pipeline through which high power octane could run 1700 miles away. If that is so, what is the difficulty for this crude oil and refined petroleum being run from Assam to other consuming centres?

**Shri S. V. Ramaswami:** My hon. friend is confusing between refined oil and crude oil.

**Shri Narayanankutty Menon:** I mean refined oil. What is the difficulty in refined oil being sent from Assam to the middle portions of India, if through 1700 miles of pipeline the Iraqi petroleum company could run refined oil in Iran and Iraq?

I am not for a moment touching on the pros and cons of the location of the refinery, whether it is to be in Bihar or in Assam. But the reasons given for locating the refinery at a place other than Assam seem to be a bit confusing.

The Prime Minister the other day when he was answering a question, laid emphasis upon the fact that partly due to considerations of defence, we were compelled to move the refinery from Assam to another place. When he said that, I was reminded of an old proverb in our State. A Namboodiri Brahmin kept gold in his box one night and kept the key under his pillow. The next morning the box was missing. The servants got flabbergasted. But the Namboodiri kept quiet. When at last the servants went and asked the Namboodiri, what was to be done, he replied: 'Don't worry. The box is gone. But the precious key is with me'.

The entire defence mechanism of our country, including planes, tanks

and even motor transport, for moving an inch from its place, is dependent upon the American and British oil companies today. If these American and English oil companies decide that the planes shall not move, the tanks shall not move, the motor transport of our Indian Army shall not move and our naval ships shall not stir out of our ports, our ships shall not move, our transport shall not move and our planes and tanks shall not move. When that is the circumstance and when the refinery itself is being given to one of the most powerful oil magnates in the world, the Shell Group for management, I do not know what is the defence consideration involved in the decision that the refinery should be transferred from Assam to some other place. The 'culprit' will be moving from Assam to Barauni. That is what it comes to.

Therefore, the primary consideration that weighed with the Assam Oil Company is to float another company to have a big pipeline and to loot the profit on the basis of the pipeline and also to charge an additional cost on petroleum products from Assam. The Assam Oil Company is motivated by that never-ending, perpetuating profit consideration and the Government of India is the accusing party siding with the Assam Oil Company for that profit. That is the consideration for the refinery being removed from Assam to some other place.

Coming to petroleum again, it has been stated inside and outside this House for years that the price of petroleum that is prevailing in India is not the normal price, not even an abnormal price. Go to our countryside. Everywhere you will find the Flying Red Horse, the Green of Red Shell and also the Texas Star. Open loot and plunder is going on. In saying so, I submit I am using the most decorous language which I could ever use in relation to this state of affairs.

The Minister in charge of this Ministry assured the House just a year ago that if at all Government found

[Shri Narayanankutty Menon]

that the profits of the refineries and oil companies were running too high, he would look into the matter. After giving that assurance on the floor of the House in August 1956, the Minister looked into the whole affair to save the consumers in India and about two months back, a one-anna increase in the wholesale price of oil was granted to the companies! The result is that Rs. 6 crores more are being transported from India as foreign exchange and profits to America and England.

Before I submit to the House what is the nature of the prices charged by the oil companies and how much profit they are taking, I must say that the Government of India itself has no idea as to what is the actual amount of profit made by these companies. Not only that, it has no idea of what is the actual amount of money being transported from this country by these British oil companies every year. The other day the Finance Minister told the House that Rs. 27 crores was the total profit made by the foreign companies in India and being taken away. I really fail to understand how the Finance Minister could say that Rs. 27 crores were being taken out when his colleague told this House on the 24th May 1957 that he had no idea—the Government of India had no idea and the Reserve Bank had no idea—as to the total remittances of profit by the Burmah-Shell Oil Storage and Distributing company. For the purpose of recollection of the hon. Minister, I shall read out the relevant portion:

"The data are primarily based on the information contained in the monthly returns filed by these companies with the Bank's exchange control department. No information is available in respect of remittances, if any, made by the Burmah-Shell refinery as the company commenced filing returns only from January 1957. As regards the Caltex refinery, it is reported that the operations

commenced only a short while ago so that no information is as yet available".

To my question as to what the total profit made by the companies in 1951 was, the Minister did not give an answer as far as the Burmah-Shell, which controls 80 per cent of the petroleum business in India was concerned, but he gave the answer as far as the Standard Vacuum and Caltex were concerned. When we calculate on the basis of the total proportion of business being done by Burmah-Shell, which does 80 per cent of the business—the Standard Vacuum does about 12 per cent of the business and the Caltex about 8 per cent of the business—you can very easily find from the figures of profit given by the hon. Minister in respect of Standard Vacuum (Rs. 1.53 crores) and Caltex (Rs. 1.29 crores), that the profits made by the Burmah-Shell from their supplies in India on a reasonable and proportionate basis comes to Rs. 12.24 crores. When the total remittance made by these oil companies thus comes to Rs. 14 crores and this, according to the Finance Minister's accounts, counts for 60 per cent of the total remittance made by the oil companies from this country, we are afraid that the situation is too late to be looked into.

When we talk of the profits made by these companies, it is not the companies alone taking the profits uncontrolled by the Government, because petroleum prices are not fixed by the companies but are fixed in agreement with the Government. Every time petroleum prices are reviewed and increased, the companies get the sanction of the Government of India. For about 20 years these prices are being fixed by the Government and when we look into the matter as to how these prices are fixed, we certainly can explore the possibilities of going into the depth of the secret which my hon. friend, Shri S. V. Ramaswami, called a real secret. The price of petroleum fixed here is

quite funny. The motor car driver in Delhi fills up his tank with two gallons of oil and pays the Delhi price of that oil. That price which is being given has got no relation to the cost of production of that petroleum with a reasonable profit that the companies are making as the hon. Minister said last year. Irrespective of the total cost of production of a gallon of petrol, irrespective of the transportation charges to the port wherefrom it is pumped out to Delhi, irrespective of the expenses that are incurred by the refining and controlling companies on that, the companies have fixed a phantom price. In the continent it has legitimately been called a phantom price. The price is fixed in comparison with the gulf parity prices.

I think everybody knows and the House is quite well aware that they are giving a price to that petroleum, a fictitious price, a price of that fictitious petroleum which never runs from the Central American Oil Refineries to the port of Houston in Mexico and when it comes there the actual cost that is incurred there in the refining project in the market, the high cost of labour which is paid in America—60 dollars a week and not the Rs. 6 paid here—along with the transportation cost from Central American places to the port of Houston, the high tankerage for taking it up to the port of Bombay plus the high transportation cost to bring it to Delhi, plus all the expenses incurred by these big offices of the company, all the establishment charges, plus 10 per cent reasonable profit that is being allowed by the Government, all these are included in it.

It has been well established by authoritative enquiry committees appointed by this Government to find out the reasons for the losses in the airways that it is due to the fictitious price of petrol that it is so. In the year 1950, the airways that were running in this country were being depleted of funds and every airway was losing and they were being threatened with liquidation. The Government appointed a Committee to

find out the causes of the losses. They did find out that the oil prices were fictitious and that the oil companies were charging prices which did not bear any relation even to the price that is prevailing in Australia which is about 2500 miles away. They found that the cost of aviation petrol per imperial gallon whose number is called 100/160 was Rs. 1|9|3 at Calcutta while in Melbourne, 2000 miles away, the same aviation petrol per gallon costs only Rs. 1|4|6.

On the 10th of August, 1956, the hon. Minister answering a question in this House said that it could be easily explained away because Australia may be nearer to the source of production of this oil. I am yet to understand whether the Minister could tell me that the aviation petrol that is being supplied to Australia by the Shell Oil Company is being produced either in Burma or any other place. Certainly not. Our cost is being calculated by this fictitious means of the Gulf Parity Price and the overhead charges the company has dictated. In Australia, instead of the Gulf Parity Price, there is some other arrangement for the fixation of this price of petroleum. We are paying a price which is far higher—the supply being from the same source—the ports of Bombay, Madras and Cochin being far nearer than the Melbourne port in Australia.

Over and above this, there is something fishy about the profit figures that have been calculated. Certainly it is high time that we have an all-India oil price. Two months ago, the Government allowed the oil companies to raise the price by one anna and a half and thus add to the colossal profits that they are making already. As Mr. Ramaswami said, are we helpless and are we prostrate before these oil magnates so that every time they want to raise the price, we say: Yes. They make more and more profits every day and the consumer is mulcted day in and day out. It may be

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because this is the time when we have launched upon the construction of oil refineries and we have no alternative but to succumb to the threats of these companies to have their terms accepted.

What have we done to our own petroleum products in these areas so that our Defence may run upon the petroleum that is being made available here? It has been said on the floor of this House that the Assam Oil Company has agreed to convert the company into a rupee company and that the new refinery that is being established will be a completely Indian company.

The Shell Company are coming out in the Press with the terms of the agreement with the Government and even though it shows that the Government had not got what they really wanted, in spite of questions being asked on the floor of the House, why does not Government come out and say what are the terms of the agreement whereby they have agreed with the Oil Company to convert it into a rupee company, the extent of control that the Government of India will have upon the production of petrol by the new company? This silence which the Government of India maintains about the terms of the agreement even after months after the date when the agreement was to have been made, makes people certainly suspicious about it. Why not the Government or the Minister come out and say what is the extent of control that the Government of India has got in establishing this refinery? Certainly we feel that the old sad story of the agreements with the 3 refineries is going to be repeated, so much so we would be helpless regarding petroleum price. We would have to agree to the Company's overhead charges. What have the Government done in the matter of calculation of the overhead charges of the petroleum worked in this country? The Government were willing to allow the 70 dollars a week wage which the American workmen

get to be added to the cost of production here when the Government agreed that the price of oil for 10 years to come shall be the same. It is agreed that the price in the year 1988 shall be maintained and the profit of these companies for 10 years to come shall not be affected. What has the Ministry done to safeguard the interests of the petroleum workers here?

Not only has the Government done nothing; but, in the year 1954, when the petroleum workers wanted that there should be a standardisation of wages—not the 70 dollars a week of the American workmen—this Ministry interfered and said that because the foreign oil monopolists are here we were not proper in discussing this matter. They did not do anything to save the interests of labour in this direction of the price of petroleum. Government is callously negligent and they refuse to talk.

Because this fictitious price is there, another fictitious thing is happening throughout our country. They are increasing the overhead charges by paying officers brought from abroad fabulous salaries. For every one anna they increase in the price they pay Rs. 100 more to their officers and later on they will come to the Government of India and say, we have paid our officers and, therefore, we want one anna more in the price of petroleum. They will get another 6 crores of profit in the year.

Shri Ranga: What shall we do?

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: My friend, Shri Ranga says: What shall we do? I will answer that.

Mr. Chairman: Very briefly.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: Very briefly and conclude, Sir.

What shall we do in the year 1957? The time has gone because as the hon. Minister said in the debate in this House in 1954, the agreement is for ten years. We shall not do anything



and the hon. Finance Minister's international morality in commerce and industry is there. Therefore, we shall not go against this agreement.

In the Report of this Ministry it has been said that the Soviet Government offered Rs. 60 crores for the construction of a refinery and the Government of India is considering that proposal. My suggestion is that instead of dabbling with these Shell Group of Oil Companies which politically and in the international sphere are completely against us, instead of handing over the crude oil that we get from Assam to these companies and making them a small monopoly Assam Oil Company for running this in the private sector, what prevents the Government from accepting this offer of Rs. 60 crores to start a refinery in the public sector, and refine the crude oil into petroleum.

The total capital outlay of the three so-called big refineries of the Burma Shell, Caltex and the Standard Vacuum Companies is about Rs. 63 crores. If this proposal which the Government says they are considering is accepted, with that we can construct a refinery which will be capable of producing far more petroleum than the 3 oil refineries are producing. It is not too late even now and if Shri Ranga is serious, it can be expedited. The Government has not finalised the contract with the Assam Oil Company. Why not then start a refinery in the public sector and see at least a very small portion of the petroleum requirements of the country is met here. It is vital to the defence of our country and for that we need not depend upon the Anglo-American companies. Slowly, in good time, we should see that we become self-sufficient in petrol.

I will conclude by placing before this House the sorry state of affairs in which we find ourselves today. No other country in the world depends so much upon the import of petroleum for its needs of fuel and power for transport and defence but because of the past history and the utter callousness on the part of the Government

and the unsupported arguments by those in charge and by those who are called upon to answer on the floor of this House and their sheer hypocrisy, we are not able to meet the needs of the country even to some reasonable extent and the people in the country were not told of the needs of our country but were kept ignorant of the views that are taken under their very nose and with the connivance, help and sometimes active co-operation of the Government.

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): Anyway, there is active prompting from behind and what does it matter?

Shri A. C. Guha (Barasat): Sir, while supporting the Demands for Grants of this Ministry and also appreciating the works already done, I shall say a few words about things which are not quite clear and which, I feel, would stand in the way of implementing the programme. I shall confine my remarks, if not solely, primarily to coal. The Planning Commission says that in view of its basic importance as fuel for a variety of industries and also as a raw material for industries like iron and steel, coal carbonisation, etc. coal must claim first attention.

I come from West Bengal which is perhaps the biggest coal-producing area in the country. West Bengal and Bihar combined is one coal area which produces about 80 per cent. of the coal; qualitatively too, it produces the best coal. In the Plan, it has been said that by the end of 1960-61, our coal production would reach the figure of 60 million tons from 38 million tons in 1955-56. That means an increase of 22 million tons during the course of the Second Plan. Of this, ten million tons will have to be produced by the private sector and 12 million by the public sector. Under the industrial policy declaration of April 1956, no new units of coal production will be given to the private sector but the private sector is allowed to expand its production.

[Shri A C Guha]

My apprehension is that the Government has not taken any concrete step for the production of 12 million tons in the public sector during the Plan period. In the administrative report, on page 43-44, are given some of the difficulties which come in the way of the development of colliery areas by the public sector as envisaged, but nowhere in the report have I found any mention as to the progress made in this direction. Rather, we find that in Bokaro areas, the production of coal was going down and there was a drop in the production of the collieries in the public sector starting from the year 1952-53. The other centres that are to be developed would be the Korba region from which the Government has an idea to take about four million tons of increased production, from Singareni region, the figure being 1.5 million tons and Jhulmili area, the figure being three million tons. There are some other areas from which they expect to get another two million tons.

One of the difficulties mentioned in the report was about the acquisition of mining lease and survey rights over the land required. Only recently, an Act was passed to remove that, and the hon. Minister will agree that it would take a few years for a colliery to yield coal, it has to be developed and worked. I do not know if the hon. Minister will tell us that by the end of 1960-61, it would be possible for him to get four million tons more from Korba region, for which particular region that Act was passed.

I expected that the hon. Minister would make the position clear as to what the Government intend to do regarding the target of sixty million tons. According to the 1956 industrial policy, no new units will be allowed to be set up in the private sector, so, all that has to be done by the public sector. That is the accepted policy. At the same time, the target of 60 million tons is of vital importance. It is perhaps the minimum that would

be required for our industries. Moreover, we find from the Plan that the increase of 22 million tons would require an investment of about Rs. 80 crores. I think that is a very modest estimate. Under the present circumstances, the Ministry may not consider this to be sufficient for the purpose.

Even then Rs. 80 crores was not provided for this purpose, they provided only Rs. 40 crores. Whether this is just a financial reservation or a mental reservation also as to the target to be reached in the public sector, Sir, I have my doubts about that. From the amount fixed for this achievement and also the way they have been proceeding, it is doubtful whether the Government would be able to achieve this target.

As my friend Shri T. B. Vittal Rao has mentioned in his speech, only 0.2 million tons of increased production has been effected in the public sector whereas in the private sector I find there has been some considerable progress.

Production during the first five months of this year is 18.30 million tons, and if this rate of production continues it is expected that this year there will be a total production of nearabout 44 million tons, which means an increase of nearly 6 million tons over the 1955 production. Practically the whole of this except a very small fraction will be achieved by the private sector. As I have already said, even from the Administration Report it can be seen that in the Bokaro area, which is working in the public sector, the production has already been going down instead of increasing.

Then, in the Plan there is a programme for establishing some washeries. All the committees set up on collieries even from 1937 have recommended washing and blending. There may be abundance of coal in India to last for a number of years but not of metallurgical coal. Its conservation is necessary.



**Shri Jadhav (Malegaon):** Sir, may I point out that there is no quorum? It has become a fashion

**Mr. Chairman:** The bell is being rung—Now there is quorum. The hon. Member, Shri Guha, may continue his speech

**Shri A. C. Guha:** Sir, I was just referring to the problem of establishing some washeries. Every committee set up on the coal industry has recommended coal washings as also blending. In the Second Five Year Plan there is a programme of establishing some washeries in the public sector. I find from the report that there is a proposal to have a washery in the Bokaro area. The contract has been given to a Japanese firm. It is stated here, the original scheme was that this washery would be installed and commissioned into working by 1st January, 1958. I do not think the hon. Minister is still hopeful of achieving this by that date. I shall rather be glad if this washery comes into operation even within the year 1958.

In the Plan there is another proposal to have a washery in Durgapur, of which there is no mention in the report. Perhaps no action has been taken as yet.

These two washeries are to supply good quality coal, metallurgical coal to the three steel factories that are being set up in the public sector. I hope the hon. Minister will make the position clear whether these washeries will be ready before the steel factories start working, otherwise there would be difficulty and it may delay the working of the steel factories also.

**Mr. Chairman:** The hon. Member must conclude now.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** How much more time will be allowed to me, Sir?

**Mr. Chairman:** I have to call two hon. Ministers, one at 16.15 and the other at 16.45, to reply. There are three more hon. Members who want to speak.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** I will finish in five minutes.

As regards blending nothing has yet been done, there might have been some thing on an experimental stage, but nothing on a commercial or practical stage as yet. That is what we find from the report on the amalgamation of collieries. That is, again, another interesting subject. According to that report most of the collieries, particularly in Bihar and Bengal, i.e. 666 out of 734 collieries, are small collieries producing less than 10,000 tons of coal per month and, therefore, all those collieries should be amalgamated. This is not the first time that such a report is made. Such a recommendation has been forthcoming from many other committees, including the Coal-fields Committee of 1946. I expect that a Government Bill on this subject will be coming before us at an early date.

As there is not much time at my disposal I do not like to take up many other subjects. I just want to refer to stowing, which is a very important factor in coal industry. Out of 830 collieries only 69 collieries have done stowing, yet I find in the Coal Board's report that there is at present with the Board a balance of Rs. 1,75,00,000, the last year's revenue was Rs. 1,70,00,000 and the expenditure was only Rs. 56,00,000. Therefore, what is the difficulty about stowing? It is not want of funds. The Coal Board is to help the collieries in the matter of stowing. I find from the report that there has been some difficulty about procuring sand, particularly due to D.V.C. I think that should have been envisaged. It is not just a temporary difficulty. It is apprehended to continue. What is the Government's programme in this matter? Will they abandon stowing?

I find the Coal Board has put a ban on depillaring in some of the collieries which will again mean that the production of coal will go down.

There is another thing. I know it does not belong to this Ministry, but I think the Minister or the Ministry should take some interest in the Coal Mines Labour Welfare Fund. An

[Shri A. C. Guha]

excise duty of six annas is collected on every ton of coal. There is a balance of Rs. 5,53,00,000 lying with them. From the report I find that there are only two central hospitals with 122 beds and 165 beds in each of them.

There are four or five regional hospitals with, I think, 18 beds in each of them, and the number of colliery workers will be near about 3½ lakhs. With such a huge fund at their disposal, I do not know why they do not increase the hospital facilities. With about 3½ lakhs of workers, the hospital facilities consist only about 400 beds,—I think it must be below 500. I want the Minister, though this does not belong to his Ministry, to take up the matter with the relevant Ministry and see that whatever money is collected from the consumers is properly utilised. It is not intended for investment in some bank and for getting an interest.

Similarly, I should like the Minister to look into the utilisation of the fund of the Central Coal Board. I think under the Act, up to Re. 1, the excise duty is permissible. I do not know what they are collecting now. I think it is eight or nine annas which was originally fixed. I am not sure what is the amount that is collected now.

Then I find there are too many authorities for the collieries. Though the Planning Commission has given the utmost importance to coal among all the minerals, I think the Government have not treated coal with sufficient importance and care. During the last five or six years, coal has shifted from one Ministry to the other. I think this is the third time that it has shifted its place from one Ministry to another. Fortunately, at least one Minister has kept himself attached to it and has stuck to it though the Ministry might have changed.

I think the Minister may also look into this matter as to why there should be so many authorities for coal. There is the Bureau of Mines; there

is the Coal Board; there is the Controller of Coal; and then there is the Indian Coal Council. I find they have recently set up a Coal Council of India for co-ordinated actions. I do not know why so many authorities are necessary. What will the other bodies do? The Coal Board has got almost omnibus powers under the Act and I also find from the report that even the opening of new seams or new collieries would require the permission of the Coal Board. So, it has got all sorts of authorities in addition to conservation and safety measures. So, I think they should try to rationalise the functions of all these authorities. There are also several Acts operating in the colliery areas. That aspect also must be looked into.

I think I have tried to draw the attention of the Minister to some of the important matters. I hope he will look into these things and specially in the matter of training. There are four training centres to be started. I learn that three have been started already. Where the fourth is located I do not know. But I am not sure about the quality of the training given there. I think only a sort of haphazard training has started. The Minister may kindly look into the quality of the training so that the proper personnel, with proper technical qualification, may turn out of those training centres.

I again appreciate what has been done so far in the field of coal and other minerals, but I expect that the hon. Minister will clarify the position as regards the target of 22 million tons of coal as the increased production and how far it would be possible for the public sector to achieve that target.

Before concluding, I would like to draw the attention of the Minister to the oil exploration in West Bengal. I hope the hon. Minister may give us some indication as to the possibility of getting oil in West Bengal and that he would make his earnest endeavour in this matter and expedite it.

Shri Naushir Bharucha (East Khandesh): I propose to confine my observations to the question of steel production. This House has rightly felt keen on the subject of the production of steel and reaching the six-million-ton target which, in my opinion, having regard to the progress so far made, seems a difficult objective to attain.

There is one thing which is disconcerting with regard to our projects of production of increased steel. As has been already pointed out by one of the hon. Members, the cost of construction of the three steel plants at Rourkela, Bhilai and Durgapur has been mounting up. It is rather surprising that the revised estimates reveal an increase of nearly Rs 90 crores. But what is still more surprising is that this additional increase of Rs 90 crores does not take into consideration the cost of township which would be necessary around all these plants, nor the cost of iron ore or the railway link connecting the iron ore deposits with the steel plants, nor the question of lime-stone quarries, nor the drilling schemes, nor the raising, handling and the haulage of coal, nor the internal railway tracks necessary for a steel plant. Outside these, there is an increase of Rs 90 crores on the steel plants only. I do not know when we shall have another revision of these estimates.

My experience has been this. I have had occasion to deal with some major works in the Bombay Municipal Corporation where first a small estimate is made, administrative sanction is taken, and then the estimates are revised beyond recognition. Now, so far as this question is concerned, an increase of Rs 90 crores means quite a lot. It involves so much of foreign exchange, I believe, to the tune of nearly Rs 50 crores.

In the first place, we are told that the Rourkela plant which was to cost Rs 128 crores will now cost Rs 170 crores. It will have certain major sections, first the coking plant with

a capacity of 1.6 million tons of coal. I should like to ask the hon. Minister in charge how it is possible for a coking plant with a capacity of 1.6 million tons to produce 750,000 tons of steel. Because, I was looking into the techniques of steel production, and I find one observation made:

"The amount of coke needed varies with the nature of the burden on the furnaces, the type of iron being produced and the efficiency of the plant. The average consumption in British furnaces is about 22 cwt of coke, equivalent to 33 cwt of coking coal per ton of iron."

If this is the experience of the countries which have been producing steel for quite a long time, I would like to know how, in the Rourkela plant, with a capacity of 1.6 million tons of coking plant, it is possible to produce 750,000 tons of steel.

Secondly, I should also like to know some other details about this plant where the Lenz and Donawitz process, known as the L.D. process of oxygen blowing is to be followed. Why is it that when it is claimed that this L.D. process makes for lower capital cost and operational costs and higher rate of production, the Rourkela plant costs us nearly Rs 40 crores more than any other plant, compared with Bhilai plant, the original cost of which was Rs 110 crores and which is revised to Rs 138 crores? How is it that the Bhilai plant is scheduled to produce more at low capital cost, than the Rourkela plant which is supposed to use this L.D. process that makes for lower capital cost and lower operational cost and greater production efficiency? That is a point which I would require to be explained, because I am not quite satisfied that this capacity of coking plant will give the desired results.

Coming to the Bhilai plant which has been revised to Rs 138 crores, I would like to know what has happened so far to this project and how far we have proceeded. We have got very limited information in the reports

[Shri Naushir Bharucha]

which has been handed over to us. I think a more detailed explanation is necessary as to the extent to which we have been proceeding. It has been claimed that the preliminary works of the township have been executed or are under construction. It means nothing. We do not know exactly what is happening, how the construction is proceeding, etc. I should like to know whether any orders have been placed for any of the major sections of the steel plant.

With regard to the Durgapur plant, the estimates of which have also been revised from Rs. 115 crores to Rs. 138 crores, and to which in this financial year we are allotting Rs. 35 crores. I should like to know how far we have proceeded. We find that there is some contract entered into with the British consortium for the supply of equipment, but I would like to know what are the conditions of entering into this contract, whether we are going to be given particular exchange facilities or any deferred payment facilities for this particular plant.

We have in this country some steel plants, for instance, the Tata Iron and Steel Company, from whom we expect a production of 2 million tons. We have got the Indian Iron and Steel Company and small works at Mysore. We are told that between them they will take Rs. 115 crores within the next five years for their development. We are also told that the Tatas have so far withdrawn Rs. 10 crores. I am not quite clear in my mind as to what is the total amount allotted to these existing steel projects in the present Five Year Plan and at what rate it is being withdrawn. We are told in the report that the Tatas will attain the first Plan target in 1958. Mind you, the first Plan target will be attained in 1958. What type of Five Year Plan is it which begins in 1951 and ends in 1958? I should like to know, at this rate how are the Tatas going to attain the target of 2 million tons? What is the rate at which they are consuming the allotted amounts? It seems to me that the progress is extremely slow.

There are other matters of a technical character, on which I think this House should have been enlightened. But it appears that our reports and the brochure on steel, mines and fuel, which has been recently issued to us, contains a very tantalisingly scanty account of what is being done. They conceal more than what revealed. For instance, we have not got the slightest idea as to what is going to be the by-products, to what extent these by-products are going to be used, etc. We are told briefly that coal tar, ammoniac liquor and benzol will be the by-products. We are also told that the L. D. process will release a considerable amount of nitrogen, which can be used for conversion into fertilisers. I should like to know a great many details about this matter, whether, in the first instance, sufficient arrangements have been made for the use of gases generated in the furnaces, because,—again I am quoting from the book which deals with processes of steel manufacture—it is said:

"The important factor in the open-hearth process is the generation of gas for heating, which is commonly done in a producer gas plant by burning of coal. It is in the production of gas for steel furnaces that the most striking fuel economies are possible."

An Hon. Member: What is the name of the book?

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member may give the title of the book and the page number.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: The book is entitled *Steel—The Facts* by Henry Owen, page 17. In view of the fact that the previous speaker pointed out that we are not likely to reach the required productive capacity of our coal mines, I am asking what is being done for the conservation and utilisation of the gases with the object of effecting economy in fuel consumption in the manufacture of steel. It is an important issue, because if the hon.

Minister studies this problem in great detail, he will find that these gases constitute a very great resource of fuel and particularly will make up for the default that we might commit in the mining of coal.

I should, therefore, like to know in connection with all the three steel plants, as to in how many cases specifications have been prepared for major equipment and in how many cases the supplies have been shipped or are in transit or have been received. In particular, I should like to know what arrangements we have made for the foreign exchange necessary to meet the shipping of equipment, whether we will be in a position to provide sufficient foreign exchange for that purpose, because let us appreciate this fact that nearly half the amount that we devote for the steel plants will be in the nature of foreign exchange. Rs. 90 crores is already the revised estimate and I do not know how many more crores it will be by the time we finish. I should like, therefore, to have the information on this point.

Again, with regard to the by-products also, I should like to have greater and detailed information and to what extent they will help us. I should also like to know whether it is possible to give us a *pro forma* profit and loss account in respect of these plants on the basis of facts and figures that we have at present. We must have some idea of the precise exportable surpluses that we shall have, because the ideas of hon. Members differ so widely. I should like to know what is going to be the exportable surplus, taking into consideration the potential demands and whether the cost of production will really be Rs. 400 per ton, or just as there is revision of capital costs, there will again be a revision of the production costs and then we shall be told that it is not Rs. 400 but Rs. 600 per ton. I should like to have this information in detail.

There is one suggestion which I would like to make to the hon. Minister. I would like him to have a film prepared, a sort of a documen-

tary, showing how steel is being manufactured, showing the various processes and also showing what progress is being made in the Rourkela, Bhilai and Durgapur and other plants. I think it will be in the nature of some education for hon. Members, because it is not possible for all hon. Members to go into a deep study of the processes of steel production. If such a documentary is prepared at a cost of few thousands of rupees, it will enlighten the Members of the House.

I hope the hon. Minister will, in the course of his reply, answer all the points which I have raised.

श्री पद्म बेन (चम्पा) : माननीय सभापति जी, मैं आप को बहुत धन्यवाद देता हूँ कि आप ने मुझे समय प्रदान किया। देश के हर उस व्यक्ति की, जो कि देश का हित चाहता है और देश के लिये कुछ करना चाहता है, यही इच्छा है कि देश को समृद्धि-शाली बनाया जाये। इस समय देश में हुए बहुत से कार्य आरम्भ हुए हैं—चाहे वे भूमि के सम्बन्ध में हों या बिजली सम्बन्धी। हमारा देश हर तरह आगे जा रहा है, किन्तु मैं समझता हूँ कि खनिज पदार्थों के सम्बन्ध में बड़ी तेजी के साथ काम नहीं हो रहा है और यह मैं इस आधार पर कहता हूँ कि यद्यपि हिमाचल के सम्बन्ध में यह कहा जा सकता है कि उस के गर्भ में परमात्मा ने अनेक सम्पत्तियाँ गुप्त रूप से रखी हुई हैं, किन्तु अभी तक उन को बाहर लाने का प्रयत्न नहीं किया गया है। सब से पहली चीज, जो मैं वहाँ पर विशेष रूप से देखता हूँ, नमक है। जब से पाकिस्तान से नमक आना बन्द हुआ है, तब से मैं सोचता था कि हिमाचल का नमक कम से कम उत्तरी भारत के लिये तो पर्याप्त होगा। किन्तु जिस गति से इस वस्तु वह नमक निकाला जा रहा है मुझे यह कहने हुए खद होता है कि वह बहुत थोड़ी मात्रा में निकाला जा रहा है। जिस तरह से अन्न के लिये कोशिश की जा रही है कि इस की पैदावार को बढ़ाया

[श्री पद्म देव]

जैसे ही नमक को ज्यादा मात्रा में निकालने का प्रबन्ध किया जाना चाहिये। हमारा ख्याल तो यह था कि जो नमक वहाँ से निकाला जाता है उससे सोडा ऐश और कास्टिक सोडा भी तैयार किया जाएगा लेकिन इस धोर इस समय कोई खास ध्यान नहीं दिया जा रहा है। मैं सरकार से इस सम्बन्ध में यह प्रार्थना करना चाहता हूँ कि वह इस धोर अधिक ध्यान दे और इस बात की सम्भावना पर विचार करे कि समुद्र के नमक की बजाय वहाँ पहाड़ से निकला हुआ नमक जोकि खाने के लिये भी ज्यादा लाभकारी है और सस्ता भी, किस तरह से और अधिक मात्रा में निकाला जा सकता है। यह नमक केवल मंडी में ही नहीं है बल्कि चम्पा की तीसा तहसील में भी इस किस्म का नमक बहुत भारी तादाद में मौजूद है लेकिन इस के सम्बन्ध में कोई खोज नहीं की जा रही है। इस तरह से जितनी भी लाभकारी वस्तुएँ हैं वे आज भूमर में ही निहित हैं और उन से कोई विशेष लाभ उठाने की कोशिश नहीं की जा रही है। इस वास्ते आज जरूरत इस बात की है कि सरकार इन से पूरा पूरा लाभ उठाने का प्रयत्न करे।

16 hrs

आज हमारे देश के अन्दर लोहे के बड़े कारखाने बनाये जा रहे हैं और मैं इस बात को मानता हूँ कि लोहे के उमर हा हमारे देश की भावी समृद्धि निर्भर करती है। हिमाचल के अन्दर दो जिले, मंडी और महाबु, ऐसे हैं जहाँ बहुत भर्सा पहले शायद जब से लोहे का इस्तेमाल शुरू हुआ था, तब से ही वे लोग लोहा निकाला करते थे और उस को अपने इस्तेमाल में लाया करते थे। बल्कि मुझे याद है कि जब मैं पढ़ा करता था तो उस वक्त भी हमारे यहाँ लोहा बिका करता था। लेकिन अब से रेलों का लोहा चालू हुआ है और मकड़ी की किल्लत हुई है तब से चूँकि वहाँ

का लोहा मंहगा पड़ता है, इस लिये लोगों ने इस को बनाना बन्द कर दिया है। जब इस समय देश को लोहे की बहुत अधिक जरूरत है, मैं भारत सरकार से प्रार्थना करूँगा कि वह वहाँ की खानों को भी देखे और बहुत भर्सा पहले चालू थीं त कि उनसे भी अपने देश के लिये कुछ लाभ उठाया जा सके। मैंने हिमाचल के दो जिलों का ही नाम लिखा है लेकिन मैं आप को बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि दूसरे जिलों में यदि खोज की जाए, तो बड़ी मात्रा में लोहा प्राप्त हो सकता है और काम में आ सकता है।

अब मैं उस चीज के बारे में कुछ अर्थ करना चाहता हूँ जिस का कि हमारे देश में बहुत व्यापार है और वह है अन्नक। कितने ही सालों से वहाँ से अन्नक इधर लाई जाती रही है और उसका व्यापार होता रहा है। ठेकेदार उसके लिये रस्ते जाते थे। मुझे मालूम है कि जब मैं हिमाचल में इंडस्ट्री का मिनिस्टर था, उस वक्त बंगाल से कुछ लोग वहाँ पर अन्नक की तलाश में गए थे और उन को जितनी सुविधायें हो सकती थी, दी गई थी। उन्होंने कहा था कि अन्नक वहाँ बहुत बड़ी मात्रा में मिल सकती है लेकिन सब से बड़ी मुश्किल यह यह है कि वहाँ से उसको निम्नला तक पहुँचाना या रेल तक पहुँचाना बहुत मंहगा पड़ता है। इसलिये मेरी सरकार से प्रार्थना है कि वह इस धोर भी ध्यान दे और वह काफी मात्रा में वहाँ उपलब्ध हो सकती है और इस की आज हमारे देश में बहुत ज्यादा जरूरत है। इससे हमारे देश को डालर भी प्राप्त हो सकते हैं।

एसबीस्टोस का वहाँ एक पहाड़ है जिस का नमूना कई बार भारत सरकार को भेजा है और उस से प्रार्थना की गई है कि उस से लाभ उठाया जाए। लेकिन जैसा मैंने आरम्भ में कहा है कि यह कार्य बड़े सुस्त ढंग से किया जा रहा है। एक लाभदायक

चीज जो वहाँ पर प्राप्त हो सकती है उसकी ओर तो आप को जल्दी ध्यान देना चाहिये था। इस बास्ते मेरी सरकार से प्रार्थना है कि वह इस ओर भी ध्यान दे और इस से लाभ उठाने का प्रयत्न करे।

एक चीज की भाज यहाँ पर बहुत चर्चा हुई है और भाज हमारे देश को ही नहीं बल्कि सारे ससार को बड़ी जरूरत है और वह है तेल। अभी हाल ही में जब हम हिमाचल में सड़क बना रहे थे तो दरिया सतलज के किनारे एक डैर नामक जगह है वहाँ जब जमीन को खोदा गया तो वहाँ से मिट्टी का तेल का बू झाई। जब उस जम न को खोदो, गहरा खोदा गया तो वह ज्यादा तेज हुई। चुनाये उसका एक नमूना हमने भारत सरकार को भेजा। यहाँ से उत्तर मिला कि तेल गिरा हुआ है। इस का एक नमूना हमने देहरादून भी भेजा और वहाँ से हमें मालूम हुआ कि इसके अन्दर मिट्टी का तेल है और इस से हमारा क्याल हुआ कि यहाँ भारी खजाना होना चाहिये। हमें यह भी बताया गया कि मिट्टी का तेल बहुत नजदीक मिल सकता है और कुछ दूर जाने पर यहाँ पेट्रोल मिलने की सम्भावना भी हो सकती है। अगर आप देखें तो आपको मालूम होगा कि सतलज के किनारे पर एक जगह है जिस का नाम सरान है। यहाँ बर्फ गिरती है और पानी ठंडा है। उसके किनारे पर बहुत बर्फ चरमे है। वहाँ से आप सानी आते हैं, पुन सतपानी, यहाँ पर सतलज का ठंडा पानी आपको मिलेगा लेकिन इस के साथ ही साथ उस के किनारे पर गर्म पानी के चरमे भी। जैसे जैसे गर्मियों में दरिया चढ़ता है वैसे वैसे ये चरमे भी चढ़ते रहते हैं। अगर वहाँ से आप आगे आयेंगे तो वहाँ पर एक डैर नामक स्थान है जहाँ पर तेल पाया जाता है। यह दरिया का किनारा है और उसके नजदीक ही थोड़ा नीचे पेट्रोल खासानी से मिल सकता है। मैं कोई वैज्ञानिक नहीं और इस के बारे में ज्यादा ज्ञान भी नहीं रखता हूँ लेकिन मैं इसका अवश्य

कह सकता हूँ कि जो नमूना हमने देहरादून भेजा था, वहाँ से हमको इस की जानकारी प्राप्त हुई थी और उसी के आधार पर मैं ये सब बातें कह रहा हूँ। मैं चाहता हूँ कि सरकार इस की खोज कराये। इस समय आप ज्वालामुखी में एक्सपेरिमेंट कर रहे हैं और वहाँ से परिणाम जब निकलेंगे तब निकलेंगे लेकिन वहाँ पर तो आप बहुत नजदीक ही पेट्रोल प्राप्त कर सकते हैं। मैं चाहता हूँ कि सरकार कुछ पैसा खर्च करके इस कार्य को यदि प्रारम्भ करवायेंगे तो बहुत ही मतोषजनक परिणाम सामने आयेंगे।

शिमला में आइरन पाइराइट्स मिलता है। एक व्यक्ति ने जिस का नाम डा० केदारनाथ है दौरान जग में खुद कोशिश की थी और इस में कुछ पैसा भी कमाया था। वहाँ पर इसका एक पहाड़ है और भारत सरकार के साथ इस के बारे में लिखा पढ़ी भी की गई थी और उमने प्रार्थना की गई थी वह इस को सम्भाले और इस से गंधक निकल सकता है और इस को निकालने का प्रयत्न करे। और भी चीजें निकल सकती होगी जिन को यदि कोशिश की जाये तो निकाला जा सकता है। इसी तरह और भी कई किस्म का खजाना हो सकता है जो कि वहाँ जमीन के नीचे पाई जाती है। जिन का पता खुदाई करने पर ही बन सकता है। लेविन जो खजाने आप को बतलाई है वे ऐसी हैं जिन के बारे में मैं कह सकता हूँ कि वे वहाँ मिलती हैं। अब कितनी मात्रा में ये मिल सकती हैं और कितना खर्चा खर्च करने पर मिल सकती है इस चीज का पता लगाना सरकार का कर्तव्य है। अगर इन कामों को हाथ में लिया गया तो इससे कई फायदे होंगे। एक फायदा तो यह होगा कि वहाँ पर जो लोग आहिस्ता आहिस्ता बेरोजगार होते जा रहे हैं क्योंकि वहाँ की जमीन उपजाऊ नहीं है, उन को रोजगार मिल जाएगा और दूसरे वहाँ पर आबादी के बढ़ने के साथ साथ जो बेरोजगारी है वह भी कुछ हद तक



## [श्री पदम देव]

सलम हो जायेगी। दूसरा फायदा इसका यह होगा कि हमारे देश की दौलत बढ़ेगी। आज सरकार की नीति यह है कि वह हर एक काम खुद करना चाहती है। लेकिन जो आज देश के अन्दर हमें अनुभव प्राप्त हो रहा है उससे पता चलता है कि जितने भी काम सरकार स्वयमेव करती है, उन सभी कामों में प्रायः घाटा ही रहता है। क्यों घाटा होता है, यह मैं नहीं कह सकता। हमारे यहां पर ट्रांस्पोर्ट के काम को सरकार ने अपने हाथ में ले रखा है। जब इस को प्राइवेट लोग चलाते थे उस वक्त वे काफी पैसा कमाते थे लेकिन जब से सरकार ने इसे चलाना शुरू किया तो कोई ज्यादा नफा नहीं हो रहा है। अब सारी चीजें नैशनलाइज हो रही हैं और मैं समझता हूं कि इन्हे किया भी जाना चाहिये। लेकिन इस बात का परिणाम क्या हो रहा है, वह भी हमारे सामने है। इस लिये मैं यह सोचता हूं—मालूम नहीं कि यह आपको बात अच्छे या न अच्छे—कि अगर हमें देश के अन्दर लोहा निकालना है और सरकार के पास बड़ी भारी मैशीनरी इत्यादि नहीं है कि वह इस काम को कर सके और इस काम को प्राइवेट लोग करने के लिये तैयार हो, तो उन को इसे सौंपा जाए और उन को प्रोत्साहित किया जाए। इससे हमारे देश की ही दौलत बढ़ने वाली है और जब दौलत बढ़ेगी तो वह हमारे हाथों में ही आयेगी, लन्दन वगैरह दूसरे देशों में तो चली नहीं जायेगी। सरकार जब भी चाहे इस सब चीज को कानून बना कर अपने हाथ में ले सकती है। मैं समझता हूं कि जो लोग प्राइवेट तौर पर ऐसे काम करना चाहते हो, उनको काम करने का मौका देना चाहिए फिर चाहे यह तेल का काम हो या गंधक का हो, अयस्क का हो या नमक का, ये सारी चीजें लोगों के फायदे के लिये हैं। ये सब चीजें देश के अन्दर रहने वाली हैं और इन से देश की दौलत बढ़ेगी और देश

की समृद्धि और बृद्धि होगी और देश आगे बढ़ेगा।

सभापति महोदय, मैं आप के सामने यह अर्थ कर रहा था कि इस ओर ज्यादा प्रयत्न नहीं हो रहे हैं और मिनरल डेवलपमेंट वर्क स्लो है और जहां यह अनिज पदार्थ और तत्व ज्यादा तादाद में मिलते हैं वहां पर अभी जिस गति से काम होना चाहिये, वह नहीं हो रहा है।

इस के अलावा जहां तक जिप्सम का सम्बन्ध है उसके बारे में मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि जिप्सम हमारे यहां बहुत होता है और पोटा के अन्दर जिप्सम का की तादाद में मिलता है, आज यह वस्तु हमारे देश के लिये बहुत जरूरी है लेकिन उसके मिलने के रास्ते में जो सब से बड़ी बाधा हमारे सामने आती है वह ट्राम्पोर्ट का माकूल इन्तजाम न होना है। इस सम्बन्ध में मंरा तो कहना है कि जब एक चीज जो कि हमारे मुक्त के लिये बहुत जरूरी है हमारे यहां मिल सकती है तो उसके मिलने के रास्ते में जो भी बाधा हो उस को हमें हटाना चाहिये और उसे प्राप्त करना चाहिए। मेरे कहने का मतलब यह है कि हमें वहां पर ट्रान्सपोर्ट की उचित व्यवस्था करनी चाहिए और वहां पर सड़क बनानी चाहिये और जितनी अधिक देश के अन्दर सड़कें बनेगी उतना लोगों के साथ हमारा संबंध बढ़ेगा। और देश में छिपी हुई दौलत अनभ्रंश होगी और देश को लाभ पहुंचेगा। इसलिए हम यह कह कर छूट्टी नहीं पा सकेंगे कि चूकि वहां पर ट्रान्सपोर्ट की सुविधा नहीं है इसलिए भले ही वह देश के लिये कितनी ही जरूरी क्यों न हो, हम उस में हाथ नहीं डालना चाहते। आपको उसके प्राप्ति के लिये जो भी बाधा हो उसको दूर करके उसको प्राप्त करना चाहिये और देश की दौलत को बढ़ाना चाहिये।



अन्त में मैं और अधिक न कह कर यही कहना चाहता हूँ कि हिमाचल प्रदेश में जो शीतल भरी पड़ी है उसको बनघर्य करके उससे लाभ उठाने का प्रयत्न किया जाय और उस को देश के काम में लाया जाय ताकि वहाँ के लोगों का भी कुछ कल्याण हो और देश भी समृद्धिवाली बने।

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** I wish to confine myself to the cut motions moved and also the observations made here in connection with Demand No. 78. These cut motions and the remarks made by hon. Members, both the opposition and on my side, have reflected a genuine desire of the House to go ahead rapidly with the mineral development programme and to point out the lacuna which, according to them, should be removed rapidly.

In all countries which are endowed with natural resources the survey work for minerals has to be a continuous process and it is not likely that the discovery of all the mineral resources and the development thereof could be taken up simultaneously, expedited or could be conceived of in a short time. As we go on with the discovery in a preliminary sense, we are attracted more towards intensive search and this process of preliminary and intensive search for minerals and other natural resources is a continuous and never-ending process so far as a big country is concerned. I would, therefore, like to assure the hon. Members who wanted us to expedite the programme of survey that we are doing all that is possible for us—I am speaking both on behalf of the Geological Survey of India, with which, of late, we have nothing to do, and the Indian Bureau of Mines—and that we are looking to every aspect of this work, whether it is co-ordination of G. S. I. and I. B. M. or intensification of preliminary survey of different types of minerals. I will, therefore, not deal further with this question and will come straight to certain aspects of the suggestions made in connection with the Department of Mining.

**Shri Dasappa (Bangalore):** Is there not a proposal to transfer the work of the GSI, and particularly of the IBM, to the hon. Minister?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** I will refer to that question later.

I will first take up the points raised by my hon. friend, Mr. Kasliwal, because I am also very interested in non-ferrous metals. No doubt the importance of copper and the increase of demands for copper is very much before the Government. The Bihar copper venture is increasing and, if I remember aright, we are now producing slightly more than 10,000 tons of copper ingots in Bihar. Last year during the budget debate I conveyed the intention of the Government—the then Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research and now merged with the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel—that during the Plan period Government propose to take up the programme of copper ore exploitation and it is hoped that within this Plan period copper ore of Rajasthan will be exploited. We are pursuing that programme and even though there was some delay in the private sector during previous years, without going into those controversies I want to assure the House that the detailed prospecting work of copper mines of Dharibo and Khetri are going on with some speed. Along with that we discovered some copper at Sikkim also and the work of detailed investigation of Sikkim copper is also going on. As soon as as we have finished with the detailed investigation of copper and we have proved the reserves we propose to take up the work of mining. Now, for that also we are not waiting for the results of reserves being discovered but we are already actively considering the question of finding out parties with whose help we can exploit the copper mines of Rajasthan as well as the mines in other places where we could discover copper. But I may make a general observation that according to evidence so far collected and according to the advice given by our eminent geologists we are perhaps not very rich in non-ferrous metals in our country and we

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are not likely to find a big discovery of either lead or zinc or copper. These sporadic finds, if they result in a major find, we will all be lucky about it. But so far as the present advice goes, it may be that we may not be quite lucky in copper, lead or zinc. Nevertheless, our search for all these non-ferrous metals continue and may be that in the newly selected area of Bastar we might prove luckier and find a larger deposit of copper or other non-ferrous ore.

My hon. friend Shri Narasimhan raised the question of training facilities for mining and metallurgical experts. We have already done that. The Indian School of Mines is expanded, and the Kharagpur Institute of Technology is also supplying a good number of technicians both for mining and metallurgical purposes. The Indian School of Mines had doubled its capacity, and we hope to further equip these institutions—the Kharagpur Institute is already equipped very well; the Indian School of Mines is proposed to be expanded and equipped satisfactorily—in such a way that our target of doubling the experts that are produced every fourth year will be realised to our satisfaction.

The main difficulties lie in our getting the type of technicians who are going to act as our teachers. It is the difficulties with regard to the teachers and the other facilities in connection with preparing the cadre, that are facing us. If we are able to solve all those difficulties with regard to getting technicians for teaching and equipping our institutions, we shall certainly consider the question of adding one more institute in the south, as has been suggested by Shri Narasimhan.

With regard to gypsum, I have just found out that a certain quantity of gypsum was imported from Pakistan till very recently, perhaps, till the month of April. I presume it is a legitimate function of two countries to carry on trade with each other, so

long as they do not start fighting with each other, or are not enemies of each other; and as such, perhaps, for certain reasons, our sister Ministry, namely, the Commerce and Industry Ministry, chose that we should import some better quality gypsum from that country. However, we are not sleeping over the question of increasing our own supply of gypsum, and I suppose, the production of gypsum has increased recently, and we are supplying quite satisfactorily to our Sindri factory.

My hon. friend Shri Padam Dev complained of slow mineral developmental work going on in the Kangra Valley. I admit that the work there has been somewhat slow. We have now included the survey and the prospecting programme of certain important minerals that are reported to be found in the Kangra Valley, and soon we may be able to take up some further prospecting work either for silver or for some other allied minerals that may be found in that region.

So far as salt is concerned, unfortunately, that is out of our scope. That is being handled by the Commerce and Industry Ministry. I promise that I shall pass on the suggestions made by my hon. friend to the Commerce and Industry Ministry so that they might have due consideration to those suggestions.

I now come to the various suggestions and remarks made in connection with this very tricky and slippery business, namely the oil business. There are two aspects of this question, that have been raised in this House. One is with regard to giving Government suggestions for oil exploration programme, and criticising us for not having done work somewhere in the country, and the other is with regard to the various aspects involved in the processing of crude oil, the price factor or the location of a refinery in this part of the country or that part of the country.

So far as oil exploration is concerned, we have a very comprehensive programme; both in the north and in the south; we have our eyes set on areas which are suspected to contain oil, and which are suspected to have possibilities of finding oil. I want to be very moderate in my statements. The Cauvery delta is supposed to be of such sedimentary origin that it is worth while doing something to search for oil in a preliminary way there.

**Shri Sinhasan Singh (Gorakhpur):** Is there any question of surveying the Himalayan area, the Terai area and the Gorakhpur area etc.?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** I shall come to that later.

So far as the western coast of India is concerned, a question was raised as to why Government were not very particular about sending their geological parties or other oil-search parties for doing some work there.

16.26 hrs.

[SHRI BARMAN in the Chair].

In this connection, I was asked to say something about the German report and their assessment of the situation there. Unfortunately, the German report is not very helpful. When Dr. Schatt and his friends came here, I personally took a lot of interest and I requested them to go to the western coast and see whether the sedimentary basins were of some hope to us, so far as oil was concerned. They reported to us that the sediments were so thin there that there was not any possibility of accumulation of a large quantity of oil or even of some reasonable quantity of oil there. We do not, however, accept that as final. We have not given up the hope of finding some oil in that site also. We continue to consult oil geologists, and during the next year or so, we propose to hold consultations with experienced geologists, so that they may be able to give us some further hope about the western coast of our country.

Then, there was some criticism made by my friend Shri Viswanatha Reddy as to why we had shifted from the Jaisalmer area to the Gangetic basin. We have not shifted from the Jaisalmer area to the Gangetic basin. What we have done is to include both the areas in the programme for oil exploration. Both these areas give us some hope, and more especially, the latest aero-magnetic survey conducted by the Canadian party indicated suitable thickness of sediments both in the Upper Gangetic Valley and in the area south-west of Jaisalmer. This has given us lot of hope. The geological and geophysical investigation that was going on already in the Jaisalmer area has been intensified. So, we have not given up anything there. The geological, gravimetric and other aspects of geophysical investigations have got to be completed, and a fairly good picture has to be placed before us for a thorough assessment, by our geologists and geophysicists before we can take the risk of spending a very large amount of money for drilling. So, the programme of drilling in the Jaisalmer area might take some further time.

Before that, we propose to finish our geological and geophysical work in that area, and it might take six months, or one year or eighteen months or two years—I cannot say that off-hand and just now. But I may assure my hon. friend that there has been no shifting of work from or postponing of any work from the Jaisalmer area to any other area.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur (Pali):** Is it not a fact that in reply to a question on the floor of the House, the Minister stated that certain foreign exchange difficulties were handicapping him in the case of Jaisalmer?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** But that applies to the entire programme of oil exploration. It has nothing to do with the narrowing down or the shifting of the work from the Jaisalmer area to the Gangetic basin; perhaps about the Gangetic basin area, not much was known to our oil geologists before twelve months or so. Recently,

[Shri K. D. Malaviya]

after this Canadian survey, we have found out suitable structures in the Gangetic basin too.

Therefore, according to our policy, we included some preliminary work for search and some geological and geophysical work in the Upper Gangetic area also, in other areas where certain structures have been pinpointed. We are arranging for parties to go there immediately after the monsoon according to our present policy of simultaneously tackling as many places as possible under our financial limitations and limitations of experienced and skilled personnel, even though we fail at one place, we might succeed in the other. Therefore, I want to remove this impression from the mind of my hon. friend that we have abandoned the programme of search for oil in the Jaisalmer area. I suppose this also meets the doubts raised by Shri S. V. Ramaswami with regard to oil exploration.

So far as separation of Geological Survey of India and the Indian Bureau of Mines is concerned, it is not a very important point from our consideration. There ought to be complete co-ordination between the GSI and IBM. It was an incident and perhaps a hurriedly decided that the GSI went over to the Education and Scientific Research Ministry and IBM remained here. If there is any difficulty which we might face in this separation, we will sit and consider the question, but so far as co-ordination is concerned, we are completely satisfied that there will be no difficulty, if the GSI remains on one side and the IBM on the other. But if there is any difficulty, we shall look into it and settle it amongst ourselves.

Now I come to the question of prices of petroleum products, location of the oil refinery in Assam and our attempt to negotiate with the Assam Oil Company to form a rupee company and also the future pattern of the proposed rupee company that is to come soon. I assure you that I am not going to be provoked by the remarks made by my hon. friends opposite,

because what I say in this connection has to be said in a very responsible way. Of course, if I had been sitting on the other side, I would have said things more provocative than what were said today. (Interruptions). But luckily or unluckily, I am on this side. Therefore, I have to make responsible statements. Hence I will be cold like steel and be impervious to all that was said this afternoon.

Shri Hem Barua: We welcome you here. (Interruptions).

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The prices of petroleum products in India are determined on the basis of a formula accepted by Government. Acceptance of this formula by Government was done under circumstances when we were eager to have a refinery or refineries in our country, and Shri Narayanankutty Menon very relevantly and pertinently pointed to those reasons that the primary objective at that time was to have a refinery in our country. An account known as the 'valued stock account' is maintained by Burmah-Shell of supplies of refined products according to this formula. The main items of the formula are varied, such as f.o.b. price, ocean freight, customs, excise, dealer's commission, oil company's remuneration upcountry subcharges and so on and so forth. It is admitted that there are many factors in the price element which are not known to us. I also admit that there may be some factors over which we may not have our agreement with the oil companies. Perhaps we do not agree with them. But the negotiations concluded between the Government of India and companies were concluded a number of years back, and there the agreement is.

Shri Jaipal Singh (Ranchi West-Reserved-Sch. Tribes): For how many years?

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: Ten years.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: There is no question of going back on it or not

honouring it, or trying to seek a modification of it by methods which might prove to be not worthy of the Government. Whether we like it or not it is there. But there are ways and means to bypass unhappy things, if they are unhappy. It is precisely with that object that we have taken upon ourselves the responsibility of discovering more crude oil in this country.

I want to emphasise this point and I wish to make it quite clear that whatever we might like, whatever our sentiments might be, so long as we do not succeed in discovering as much crude oil in our country as we require for our use and so long as we are not able to refine the oil by refineries which are completely under our control, it will be difficult for us to say much with regard to this price factor. I also do not know much about it. Whether it is the VSA or BSA or MRA, I do not know. Till very recently, we did not know many of the factors involved in it. It was only recently that they gave us notice that they wanted to increase the price of finished products. We were only to be consulted about it. We were consulted. There was some price increase after the Suez crisis and we had to agree to it.

Therefore, so long as we are mainly dependent on imported crude and until such time as we produce and our refineries refine the oil, as much as we need to meet our requirements, we have no other alternative but to accept the import parity basis for the petroleum products.

**Shri Narayanankutty Menon:** Is there a gallon of oil that is imported into India which comes across the Suez Canal?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** I know all that. But it is out of our control, and those who impose that price have divorced it from the cost of production plus profit and all that basis. That is what my hon. friend, Shri Narayanankutty Menon, pointed out. I know all that and more than what he has said about it. It is a fact that the oil that comes to this country comes from east of Suez.

You will be glad to hear that recently we have persuaded the foreign companies to switch on from the Gulf of Mexico price to the Gulf of Persia price. We have thus effected a saving of more than Rs 2 crores on that score. Therefore, by our pressure on them both direct and indirect they accepted the proposal to switch on from the Gulf of Mexico price to the Gulf of Persia price structure. We might achieve something more but as, I said only if we produce enough crude oil in the country and if we see that our sentiments do not create problems and confusion within ourselves, then we are surely going to succeed on this oil front and going to establish that oil can be supplied to our consumers at rates cheaper than what it is supplied in other countries.

**Shri Hem Barua:** After how many years?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** But there is a big 'but'. I want your co-operation.

**The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing, and Supply (Shri Anil K. Chanda):** Very difficult.

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** and the co-operation of the people. How can this happen when one does not see things in an objective way and talks with emphasis on threats and sentiments.

I do not wish in this connection to refer specifically to Shri Hem Barua who spoke this afternoon, but generally speaking, I do feel that there is some sort of loose sentiment and vague talk which is going on about the oil refinery location. We had a very cordial talk with my friends, the Ministers of Assam, when they came here. We tried to understand the view point they pressed before us and it was with a determined effort on our part to try to see that a refinery, if at all, could be located in Assam that we sat down and discussed all the problems, examined all the pros and cons and we came to the conclusion, not only in deference to their wishes, but out of our desire to be convinced, that we should have a

[Shri K. D. Malaviya] study report about Gauhati also. It was out of our desire to be convinced that an oil refinery in Gauhati is as beneficial to the country and as much in the interest of our country as a refinery in Barauni or Lucknow or any other place, that we reached that conclusion.

So we want to be convinced. We have a completely open mind on this question. If we did not have an open mind on this question, there would have been many many difficulties which would have arisen today.

I have got a letter in my pocket which I have received from a very important friend of mine who holds a post of eminence. He gives me the advice that this question of river transport—barging the crude oil by river and transportation of the finished products by pipe, should be considered very seriously because he is convinced that it is a very feasible proposition. He appeals to us to give very serious consideration to this question of river transport. I did not wish to say anything in the past few weeks, but I wish to say today that I am the author of this scheme of river barging bringing the crude oil in the river, if possible, from Gauhati to any place where the refinery can be located. It is I who conceived for the first time even after the Expert Committee had concluded its findings. The Government started the examination of this question actively, whether the transport of crude oil by river was a feasible proposition or not. We are still at it and I personally feel that we can do it. That is my personal feeling and there are experts who do not agree with me. Therefore, I should bow to them also. I do not want to be led away by sentiments that I thought initially about the scheme. It is not that the Ministers of the Government of India do not want to listen to any man. Far from it, I want to assure my friends in Assam that whether it is a question of river transport or a question of transport of the finished product by pipeline, we shall give the fullest consideration to this question.

If the consultants agree we shall do it. We may have more than one consultants. I learn that the Assam Government are also proposing to have some consultants. We shall sit together and consider. If we are wrong, we shall confess that we have made a mistake, because in my heart of hearts I want to have this refinery in Gauhati. If I cannot have it in Gauhati, then, in national interests, I shall say so. But even before saying so I want to assure my hon. friend Shri Barua and through him all the people in Assam that I do not wish to entertain a feeling that a refinery in Gauhati is not an economic proposition.

But, we cannot do anything against realities. These realities have not yet come before us. Therefore, I want my hon. friend to consider this question most dispassionately whether strikes or demonstrations or agitations of a type which have absolutely no relevance to such highly complicated and technical questions should be encouraged by leaders who want to do things with any sense of responsibility.

I am glad to hear that atmosphere in Assam is very much improved and that our friends in the Congress are trying their level best to persuade the people to see reason because they know that every member of the Government of India wishes that if it is a feasible proposition and if it is in the interests of the country and Assam, we will have this refinery in Gauhati.

Shri Hem Barua: On a point of information, Sir. Coming to river barges, I met the Prime Minister on 23rd July and he told me that he was considering the transport of oil by river barges but that was not possible. But, subsequently I understand that this is so because the companies that are plying barges there have refused to co-operate with Government simply because of the fact that they do not want to displease the Assam Oil Company which is another British firm.

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** It is all wrong, Sir.

The question of river transport will be considered and is being considered whether the sister companies of the Assam Oil Company come into it or not. That is not the question. When the Prime Minister assured my hon. friend Shri Barua that this question was being considered, he said so with all sense of responsibility and there the matter should end.

**Shri Hem Barua:** It was considered.

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** There are views both for and against and there are more views against it than for it. But, I do not propose to go into the merits of it all. I can say many things just now on the floor of the House which can convince the House of certain aspects of the merits. But I do not wish to do so. I will not do it today. Why I do not wish to say that is because I want honestly to be convinced before I speak again on merits. It is no use raising these questions prematurely. I think the question is in the hands of the technicians and we should not brush them aside by saying that they have gone to the other side, that they are henchmen of the Assam Oil Company, that they have been influenced by the Assam Oil Company. It does not sound well; it is not good; it is not a decent thing to allege things like that. All that I wish to say is whether it is the Assam Oil Company or any other foreign company, no one can influence the Government of India today to deviate from their path, from their determination and policy that this oil business is completely to be under Government control.

**Shri Hem Barua:** May I know one thing?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** The more we go on with this object the more we get into difficulties that face us. Therefore, we are not going to act hastily or erratically. We have to act as realists as such problems will face

us. They will not face my friends so long as they talk from that place in this way. I only want them to talk in a more responsible way; then, they will see light.

**Shri Hem Barua:** I am grateful to the hon. Minister for telling us about these experts and technicians. In my speech I alluded to the recommendations of the Expert Committee and I said that they have suggested Gauhati as one of the three places.

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** I quite catch it. My hon. friend rejected the entire report of the committee by saying that it was based on the information and data supplied by foreigners, the Assam Oil Company. He ended by saying: Look at these fools; they were led and influenced by the data that was produced by the Assam Oil Company. Now, he himself tries to produce it as a piece of evidence in his favour. Is he also influenced by the Assam Oil Company? Shall I take it like that.

The fact is we got certain data from the Assam Oil Company. We examined all this data and when examined, we found some of them were to be accepted and some not to be accepted. (Interruption). I suppose, there is nothing wrong in consulting experts. The Assam Oil Company have supplied the data; we accept them or reject them. I have nothing more to say about this question. I only hope that my hon. friends in the Opposition who are coming from Assam will consider very coolly.....

**Shri Hem Barua:** You have clouded the whole issue.

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** They will consider coolly all the aspirations of the people of Assam. We hope that after all these questions are closely examined, the whole thing will be clear to us and if we can have a refinery after that examination we will be most glad to do so.



**Shri Hem Barua:** On a point of information, Sir, About this Expert Committee's report, I said that Gauhati is one of the three places recommended.

**Mr. Chairman:** Shall we discuss the report here?

**Shri Hem Barua:** I have discussed only the pattern of production.

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** Gauhati was the last alternative.

**Shri Hem Barua:** At the same time I have questioned the pattern of production suggested by the Expert Committee. They have suggested a pattern which will deprive Gauhati of the location.

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** Mr. Chairman, Sir, but for the somewhat unfortunate excitement over the location of the refinery, the subjects that are the subject-matter of discussion today are more or less non-controversial.

**Shri Hem Barua:** Cold as steel.

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** They are non-controversial in the sense that all sections of the House as also everyone in this country is watching with very great interests the progress that our country is making towards industrialisation. The matters that are dealt with in the Ministry are, if I may say so with all humility, vital for providing that base for industrialisation.

Some hon. Members have used the expression 'core of the Plan'. The Finance Minister does not particularly like that expression. We should look beyond this expression and see the importance that the development of the fuel resources of the country and the exploitation of mineral resources and the manufacture of a vital metal like iron and steel are bound to assume in the rapid advance of our country towards the goal of industrialisation. I have to express my gratitude for the thought that the hon. Members of this House have given to the various problems that are the subject matter of discussion.

Some of them are somewhat technical. A considerable volume of data and figures are involved in certain aspects but the hon. Members have given a very clear exposition of some of the aspects of coal, lignite, iron and steel, oil and other matters about which they spoke during the discussion. I wish I had the time and the indulgence to be able to examine all these points in great detail. There is that limitation of time and I will attempt broadly to cover some of the important points dealt with.

First of all coal. The targets of production, their allocation between the private and the public sector and the steps that are taken to reach that target are fully known to this House. It is not my intention to repeat those figures again. However, I would like to say that the type of arithmetical calculation in which my usually well-informed friend, Shri Vittal Rao indulges in, is not applicable here to find a correct solution of the production that will be there in a particular year. The basis of his argument was that in 1956 we were able to produce some extra. So, multiply it by five for five years and because that falls short of the planned target, he says that there is something seriously wrong. I say that this type of oversimplification of arithmetical fractions is not perhaps the correct way of judging the progress that is made in a highly technical field like the exploitation of coal.

It is axiomatic to say that a number of preliminary steps have to be taken. Preliminary reports have to be prepared; places have to be surveyed; machinery has to be collected. Once all that thing is properly organised, then the pace of progress and the addition to production are much more rapid than the figure got by mere multiplication by five. The effective step that has been taken by the Government in giving a push to the National Coal Development Corporation by creating an autonomous body with fairly wide powers of executive responsibility is in the right direction and one can say with some confidence



that the target in the public sector is in all probability likely to be achieved by the end of the Plan period.

I am not going to recount the difficulties. Some of them are known. Only a few months back, I came to this Parliament for enacting the Coal Bearing Areas (Acquisition and Development) Act. It was an essential and preparatory step to enable the National Coal Development Corporation to get hold of those areas where coal is available because most of those areas were already covered by mining leases and the like.

The machinery had to be imported. Unfortunately for us, we have still to import quite a substantial part of coal mining machinery. Recently, orders have been placed in spite of our foreign exchange difficulties and according to those orders, we will be getting machinery worth about Rs. 3 crores. If we take into consideration the nature of the problem, the preliminary steps that have to be taken and the organisation that is to be set up, etc. it will be too hasty to pronounce a judgment that we have signally failed. It is not fair to say so.

I had promised not to burden my speech with figures. But there is one important matter about which the House would undoubtedly be interested. So far as State-owned and State-controlled collieries are concerned, in 1954-55, the total output was 2.93 million tons and in 1957-58, there is estimated to be an increase of roughly seven lakh tons in this sector alone. It is an increase of roughly 22 per cent or 23 per cent. The other collieries in the public sector on which active work is in hand may well be mentioned.

The monthly production of the following collieries in March 1958 is expected to be about 1.5 lakhs.

	tons.
Korba—Manual quarry	15,000
Korba—Incline Mine No. I	
Korba—Incline Mine No. II	6,000
Korba—Mechanical quarry	35,000

Kathara—Mine	30,000
Gidi—Mine	16,000
Sounda—Mine	10,000
Bhurskunda—II Mine	5,000
Kurasia—II Mine	5,000
Korea—I and II Mine	15,000

The increase in production in March 1958 in any of these projects will depend in some cases on our ability to despatch coal from that area. Therefore, whether it is an existing colliery or the development of a new one or improving the working condition in some of the earlier ones, the programme is well in hand and any misgiving on that score is not justified at all.

17 hrs.

With regard to coal another matter that was referred to related to the amalgamation of collieries. This matter has been under consideration for quite some time. I can now say that Government have accepted in principle the recommendations of the Amalgamation of Collieries Committee, and suitable steps will be taken to implement some of these decisions, the details of which have still to be worked out. But, so far as the principle of amalgamation is concerned that has been accepted by Government and we will shortly undertake further steps, legislative and the rest, to implement and finalise the details as to what should, for instance, be the size of the collieries that should come within that, what should be the upper limit, what should be the lower limit of production, what should be the arrangement either of compulsory acquisition or of voluntary amalgamation and all that. These are matters of detail about which final decisions have not yet been taken.

Criticism was made with regard to revision of coal prices. I would not like to prejudice the investigation that at the moment is being undertaken by a fairly high-powered coal pricing committee upon which there are representatives, besides this Ministry, of other important Ministries also. That will go into the entire picture, and to defend a particular rise or to find arguments against it, perhaps,

[Sardar Swaran Singh]

would embarrass the committee and will not yield any particular point except perhaps, may be, a debating point here or there, and I would resist the temptation of merely putting forward a debating point. Suffice it to say that this question of coal prices about which there have been a considerable amount of unrest and almost agitation in the coal industry is now being investigated by a committee upon which representatives of various Ministries concerned are represented. They have already taken the memoranda and evidence, if I may use that expression, from the industry and from the workers. They have visited some of the mines, and they will be giving a report after taking everything into consideration. That report would be useful to enable the Government to take a final decision in that respect.

I thought that my friend Shri Vittal Rao would welcome that compromise between industry and labour which was brought about by the good offices of my colleague, Shri Nanda, the Labour Minister, in which by an agreement a matter which was agitating the minds of a large section of both the industry and labour, and about which a case was pending in the Supreme Court, was settled. The admirable manner in which an out-of-court agreement was secured should have been a matter upon which my friend Shri Vittal Rao should have congratulated the Government. Instead of that, he raised that as a point of criticism. In so far as it related to a revision of the coal prices, that revision also was a part of that agreement which was accepted broadly by all the parties who participated in the course of that discussion.

Shri A. C. Guha: Has the case in the Supreme Court been withdrawn, or is it still pending there?

Sardar Swaran Singh: I am not sure as to what is the latest position, but the understanding was that it should be withdrawn. My colleague, the

Labour Minister, has already said that it is the intention of the Government to enforce that agreement, and for that purpose even if legislation is necessary to be undertaken he said that he will not hesitate to undertake legislation to that effect.

Shri A. C. Guha: When legislation is necessary in that respect, the sooner it is brought the better.

Sardar Swaran Singh: Then, very naturally, this question about movement of coal was raised. That is a matter which has been discussed from time to time both when the Ministry in charge of coal is being discussed as also when the Railway Administration are discussed, and quite naturally so. The stuff itself is bulky. The places of production are known. Our country is a large one and its transport resources are not fully developed. Therefore, this jigsaw position remains. But, every effort had been made, when the plans for development both of coal resources as also of railways were finalised, at the time of the formulation of the Second Five Year Plan to see that there should be a co-ordinated development between the railways and the coal mines so that whatever is produced is moved to places of consumption, and the object being to conserve and use the limited transport resources to the best advantage of the country. That is a broad principle, and its actual application with regard to a particular colliery or a particular part of the country may have yielded results which are not quite palatable to the people concerned. But, there it is, and no amount of argument can alter it, except that if there is any obvious imbalance anywhere or any lop-sided sort of development a second look could be had at that.

As this hon House is aware, this is one of the most important functions and, if I may say so, a fairly difficult function of the Coal Controller's Office, to canalise the movement in such a way that the essential industries, the Government's requirements, the requirements of the Railways, the

requirement of ports, the export situation and everything is properly co-ordinated and the best utilisation of the available resources is made.

So far as training of supervisors is concerned, I admit there has been some delay in starting the training centre in Andhra Pradesh. In reply to one of the questions the other day I did give some information. All that I need to say at the present moment is that we will take up this matter further with the State Government and we will do our best to ensure that this training centre is started as soon as it can be done, because we are really very vitally interested in increasing our training facilities for that purpose.

Something has been said with regard to the facilities that are available for the workers. That is in itself an important subject, and if I were to recount all that had been done, perhaps most of my time will be taken. The Labour Ministry, I am sure, who are in charge of that cess fund, would be in a better position, and there would be a greater volume of time also to go into detail with regard to this aspect.

So far as the Government collieries are concerned, we are taking steps from time to time to improve the working conditions and also to provide other amenities, and this is somewhat a harsh criticism when it is said that even in Government collieries the conditions are deplorable and the like. It may be that they do not come up to the expectations of all of us. We naturally want to do considerably more than what we have been able to do, and that matter is constantly engaging our attention. It will be our constant endeavour to do our utmost to improve their working conditions and their living conditions.

Now, Sir, a few words about the important lignite project, and in this respect I would point out to the House that Shri Vittal Rao, an hon. Member from the South, does not appear to agree very much with two other hon. Members from the South,

namely, Shri Ramaswami and Shri Narasimhan. He thinks that probably it is a wild venture and we may be spending a great deal more. He even produced some calculations to show that the caloric effect of so much quantity of lignite ill compares with the caloric value or the thermal or the heat value of the same volume of coal. That is correct. But it has to be remembered that from the south and from that area to the coal-fields in Bihar and Raniganj, it is considerable distance, which even Opposition Members cannot ignore, and it entails difficult transport problems. Even today we have to move considerable quantities of coal towards that area by sea and that means greater expenditure, and some Members representing the State of Mysore justifiably raised the point as to why the entire coal for the requirements of Bhadravati Iron and Steel Works is not made available by rail. I cannot make all that coal available on account of transport difficulties.

An Hon. Member: Rs. 45 a ton.

Sardar Swaran Singh: Yes; it is true that these things may be costing a little more or costing a little less, but its availability is of vital importance, and it cannot be made available unless it is moved to that point and it cannot be moved without incurring heavy additional expenditure. Therefore, to exploit the resources that are available there was the best under these circumstances, and I for one am very happy that this project was undertaken, and I can recall with a certain amount of pleasure the excitement that I noticed in the eyes of everyone when the Prime Minister went there to perform the opening ceremony of the first mine cut there.

Shri Ranga: That will be the biggest for the whole of the South.

Sardar Swaran Singh: Then it has to be remembered that it is not wholly for the purpose of raising fuel, but it is an integrated project. Fertilisers, briquetting plant and also a power house and a thermal station are all interconnected with this project.

**Shri Ranga:** It involves defence interests also.

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** There are so many arguments in favour of it and the House appears to be so fully convinced that I need not pursue this point further. I am sure that Shri T. B. Vittal Rao himself has started feeling a little guilty as to why he raised this point.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** On a point of personal clarification of the point. I was not against the project. I asked about the capital investment. What are they going to raise in relation to the capital investment? That is Rs. 50 a ton.

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** Even on that capital calculation, we can indulge in that exercise sometimes later when we have a little more leisure, but all this has been calculated and it was found that it would be worth-while to have that project there both as a centre for producing thermal power as well as for the fertiliser plant and the like.

Now, there is very little time left. I have still a very important part of my function to discharge, namely, to say something about the steel plants. This is a subject which is so fascinating and really so much time is necessary to enable me to give a complete picture to the House that I will have to remain content by giving only some broad facts about the steel projects. So far as our present foreign exchange difficulties are concerned, it has been explained on a number of occasions by the Prime Minister, the Finance Minister and by other Ministers dealing with the economic subjects that our foreign exchange difficulties today are difficulties that have arisen not on account of any extravagance or because we are indulging in any spending spree but really because we have undertaken colossal tasks for laying down sound bases for the development of our country.

Take, for instance, these steel plants. They consume a very huge

quantity of steel. They consume huge amounts of foreign exchange which we can ill afford today. Even in spite of all that, we are going ahead with these projects. It is with this firm hope that when they go into production, this foreign exchange difficulty with which we are faced today will to a very great extent disappear. That will open opportunities in this country for manufacturing many of the heavy machinery and other equipment which is so essential for the industrial development. We cannot take our country to the goal of industrialisation by depending on imports of heavy machinery and the imports of other capital goods from foreign countries for long. As regards this machinery, heavy or other capital goods, even steel itself, during the last two years or so, we had to import to meet our requirements, whether they are the industrial users, agricultural users or for construction purposes or for the purpose of other projects, and the amounts are very considerable. They run into three figures of crores almost every year. That is the state of affairs which our country cannot sustain. Therefore, all eyes are naturally turned towards seeing that these steel plants go into production and produce the metal which is really the answer for all development and progress in the modern technological stage in which the world finds itself today.

So far as these three steel plants are concerned, I would like to give information to the House: not that it is new, but I would like to give a picture which might indicate the targets as also some financial implications of these projects. By the end of the last year, work on the three steel projects—in Rourkela, Bhilai and Durgapur—was well set to run according to plan. Specifications were finalised and orders placed for all the main plant and machinery. With this preparatory work finished, Government considered that it would be advantageous if all the three steel projects were brought under a unified company management. The Bhilai

and Durgapur steel projects were transferred from the 1st of April, 1957 to the Hindustan Steel Private Limited, a wholly-Government owned company formed originally to construct and manage the Rourkela Steel Works.

For Rourkela, 25 German firms are to supply plant and equipment. Manufacture of these is going on according to schedule, and the first consignments required for the coke oven and blast furnace have begun to arrive. Civil engineering work in the sections, required for the production of iron, is progressing and despite certain initial difficulties, it is hoped to commission this department according to schedule. The first blast furnace will go into production before the end of 1958. Civil engineering work involved in the rolling mills is large and complicated, and there has been some difficulty in securing contractors with the necessary resources and experience. Nevertheless, we are trying our best by offering incentives and such like to adhere to the target dates.

In Bhilai, the tempo of work has been increasing and the back-log which had been created owing to some difficulties in making arrangements for civil engineering construction is expected to be made up in the course of construction. Suitable readjustments of the monthly programmes have been discussed with the Soviet Chief Engineer and it is hoped to produce iron by the end of 1958 and finished steel by the end of 1959.

17.30 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair.]

In Durgapur, the contract with the Indian Steelworks Construction Company, is for the supply, construction and erection of the steel plant as a whole. Construction is proceeding according to schedule. While construction is going on, arrangements are being made for the supply of raw materials and the training of the men required for the operation of the three steel plants. The important raw materials are iron ore, limestone and coal.

Iron ore for Rourkela will be obtained from mines to be developed at Barsua, 50 miles from the site of the steel works. Contracts have been made for the supply and erection of the equipment for these mines. Until these mines are ready, it is proposed to run the steel works with ore from another mine in Bolani (Gua) which is being developed primarily for supply to Durgapur. While the mines will have to be mechanised for large scale operation, the nature of the deposits in Bolani is such that small quantities required for the first blast furnace in Rourkela can be moved over the existing railway system, with a few improvements.

Bhilai will draw its ore from Jharia, about 50 miles from the steel works. Plant and equipment for these mines will be supplied by the U.S.S.R. As elsewhere, the difficulty has been with civil engineering work. Here again, we expect to be able to arrange for this work to be done in time.

Limestone for Rourkela and Durgapur will be obtained initially from Birmitrapur and Hathibari which supply the existing steel works. Further exploration is going on to locate permanent sources of supply. Limestone for Bhilai will be quarried from the deposits of Nandini (Deorjhal) about 12 miles from the steel works.

Coal for Rourkela will come from Bokaro/Kargali and Jharia fields. This was one of the points raised by an hon. Member. The Bhilai plant is based on a mixture of coals from Bokaro/Kargali, Jharia and Korba coals. Durgapur will use a blend of Jharia and Raniganj coals. With the limited resources of metallurgical coal, these will be washed as a measure of conservation. This was one of the points raised by Mr. Guha. A washery is under construction in Kargali which would wash the coals for Rourkela and Bhilai from the Bokaro and Kargali fields. Jharia coals for these two plants will be washed in a washery in Dugda for which tenders have been

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invited. The contract with the Indian Steelworks Construction Company includes a washery for Durgapur. This also answers Mr. Guha's query. The railways are constructing new lines to meet the demands of the steel works for these raw materials.

Another important point about the training of the personnel was raised. I would like to say something briefly about that aspect also. For the operation of the three steel plants, it is estimated that 120 experienced engineers, 1,200 qualified engineers, 10,000 skilled workers and 7,000 semi-skilled workers would be required. Until the 1st of April, recruitment of engineers was made largely through the Union Public Service Commission. With the transfer of the Bhilai and Durgapur Steel projects to the Hindustan Steel (Private) Limited, the responsibility for recruitment has now been taken over by the company.

Besides 363 engineers for the construction of the works, 547 engineers have been selected to be trained to take over ultimately the operation of the three steel plants. 20 engineers have returned after training in the U.S.S.R. and 11 after training in Germany. 115 engineers are now under training in the U.S.S.R., 69 in Germany and 115 in the United States. U.S.S.R. will train another 84 engineers and 487 supervisory skilled supervisory staff. The Ford Foundation of America has made arrangements with the steel works in that country to train 900 engineers and skilled workmen. 300 are expected to be trained under the Colombo Plan in the steel works of the United Kingdom. Some engineers will also be trained in Canada and Australia.

Shri Ranga: How long will it take to send these people to those countries? We seem to be taking too much time.

Sardar Swaran Singh: We are already sending them. That is what I said. Some of them have actually come back after finishing the training.

Shri Dasappa: The hon. Minister said that the recruitment was taken out of the hands of the U.P.S.C. May I know why?

Sardar Swaran Singh: U.P.S.C. is unable to undertake the responsibility for recruiting personnel for a company.

Shri Ranga: They are slow.

Sardar Swaran Singh: There is one point about which I would like to say something before I close. It has been pointed out by hon. Members that the estimates, as they now appear with regard to the cost of the steel plants, are higher than the original estimates. I would like to say something on that score. The original estimates were, Rourkela Steel Plant—Rs. 128 crores, Bhilai Steel Plant—Rs. 115 crores and Durgapur Steel Plant—Rs. 115 crores. These estimates did not include the cost of the three townships, two ore mines, fees to the consultants and the cost of Indian and foreign experts. In December last it was stated that there had been an increase in the estimates of the Durgapur and Rourkela Steel plants mainly on account of an increase in the costs of material and labour in the countries from which the plant is to be imported and also owing to a seller's market developing in India for civil engineering works. The Durgapur plant was expected to cost Rs. 138 crores and the Rourkela plant about Rs. 170 crores, excluding customs duty and contingencies. The estimates for the Bhilai Steel plant have not yet been revised. But, when revised, these are bound to reflect the increased Indian costs. We are now engaged in revising the estimates of the Bhilai steel plant to bring it into line with the Rourkela and Durgapur estimates.

The content of the estimates differs somewhat from plant to plant and as such, any meticulous comparison would be difficult. In Bhilai, a number of things are the responsibility of

the Government of India Making such additions as are necessary to bring these estimates to a somewhat comparable basis, the Bhilai plant is expected to cost Rs 131 crores. This is not a firm figure because we have not yet worked out the revised estimates.

These estimates, Rs 170 crores for the Rourkela plant, Rs 138 crores for the Durgapur plant and Rs 131 crores for the Bhilai plant do not include the cost of the following items township, ore mines and quarries, land, prospecting and designing, development of sources of water supply, power supply facilities up to the perimeter of the plant, personnel required for operation including the cost of training, railway works outside the perimeter of the plant, personnel employed directly by the project, customs duty, expenditure on medical services, office expenditure and such other ancillary expenditure. I thought, in fairness to the House, I should make this position clear so that the present position, as it obtains today, may be fully clear to the hon House.

While the capital costs given earlier are the cost of the steel plant proper, viz., everything within the perimeter of the works, there are differences in the three steel plants in regard to what is within the perimeter. The original German estimate for the 1 million ton steel plant at Rourkela was Rs 128 crores. In December, 1956, we announced an estimate of Rs 170 crores. Two points need elucidation. Why did Rs 128 crores rise to Rs 170 crores and why does the Rourkela plant cost Rs 170 crores while the Durgapur plant, for example, costs only Rs 138 crores.

The original estimate was definitely an under-estimate. The German consultants were not quoting for the plant, but merely giving their opinion of what it would cost to buy in the market. In doing so, they erred on the low side in order to guard against the possibility of their estimate being regarded by the suppliers as minimum. The actual market prices proved to

be about 30 per cent more. Even so, our British Consultants were satisfied that they were reasonable under European conditions and definitely less than American prices.

Similarly, the volume and complexity and cost of civil engineering and other works was under-estimated.

Secondly, why does the Rourkela plant cost more than the Durgapur or Bhilai plants? By its nature, the Rourkela plant is costlier. It is designed to produce flat products like sheets and plates, and for this purpose includes a very modern continuous strip mill. The fob price of the rolling mills alone of Rourkela, Rs 57 crores, is nearly Rs 30 crores more than the Bhilai rolling mills and Rs 15 crores more than the Durgapur rolling mills. Apart from the rolling mills, Rourkela has had to have a big power station of 75,000 kw because of larger consumption of power in the rolling mills and the quick fluctuation between average and peak loads, a factor which limits the extent to which power can be taken from Hirakud and provision for a fertiliser plant.

The extra fob cost of power plant accounts for Rs 3 crores. These two factors alone account for practically the whole of the difference between Rourkela and the other two plants.

There is one small point and with that I will try to finish. Something was said about the Salem ore and the other rich ores that are available in the South. With regard to that I would like to say that this matter is already engaging our attention and pilot experimental work has been undertaken at the Metallurgical Research Institute at Jamshedpur and depending upon the results of that further progress can be made.

So far as conventional methods of manufacture of steel are concerned, coke is a very essential raw material and there has not been any great progress made in the manufacture of steel by electric power alone. All



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those points can be gone into and if it is feasible, certainly steps could be taken to develop the manufacturing capacity in the South also

I am fully aware that some points have still remained unreplied but it is already 5-30 P.M. and I do not want to try upon your indulgence too much. I would end by saying that we are well set towards the realisation of the targets and the achievement of targets in the production of coal, in the production of lignite, in the production of iron and steel, in striking oil, if my hon. friend, Shri K. D. Malaviya, is lucky, will be very important landmarks in the progress of our country.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: The hon. Minister who replied to the debate in the earlier occasion was sentimental enough not to reply to questions. That is why didn't ask him questions.

Mr. Speaker: It does not matter. Let bygones be bygones.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: What is the share of the Government of India in the proposed rupee company to be formed in Assam? Secondly, what action has the Government taken after accepting the offer of USSR of a loan of 500 million roubles for the construction of refinery?

Sardar Swaran Singh: I think about this USSR offer of credit there is some confusion. There is an offer of 500 million roubles of foreign exchange and it will be available from the year 1959-60 and I think this was one of the projects that was considered under that head. Now it is for the Government of India to consider by mutual adjustment as to which are the most appropriate projects that should qualify for that aid. Some negotiations are to take place within a few weeks as to what should be the projects that should come within that 500 million roubles credit which will be available after, I think, a year or two. Apart from that, there is no other USSR offer. I think there is

some confusion in the mind of my friend, Mr. Menon, on that score.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: It was specifically mentioned in the report that an offer of Rs. 60 crores has been made for the specific purpose of constructing a refinery and the Government is

Sardar Swaran Singh: If it pleases my hon. friend, that may be said to be superseded by what I said today because I do not know what is there in the report. I have to check it up. But what I said now is the correct state of affairs.

Shri Ranga: May I know whether the consideration that the hon. Minister has promised to give to the iron ore that is to be found in Salem would also be applicable to the iron ore that is to be found in Telengana, and Sandur of Karnataka also? There are heavy deposits there.

Sardar Swaran Singh: I would only like to add that it is applicable to the iron ore that is found in the South of Punjab.

I again end by saying that iron ore is available in fairly large parts of the country and our effort, as we make progress, will be to extend our activities to as wide a circle as possible. To start with, we have to select places where all the facilities are readily available so that we do not tackle the most difficult parts in the beginning.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: What about the share in the rupee company?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I will just state for the information of the hon. Member that so far as the rupee company is concerned, it does not come in this refinery business. The question of setting up a refinery with that ...

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: That we know.



**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** The rupee company is for the production of crude oil and transportation of crude oil by pipelines. The refinery is completely out of the scope of the present discussion, so far as the rupee company is concerned. We are completely free to negotiate for this refinery with whomsoever we like.

**Shri Narayanankutty Menon:** What is the share of Government in the rupee company?

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** What is Government's share? We know all these things. We know that the refinery is not there.

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** In the rupee company, Government's share is 33 per cent. The prices will be subject to the approval of Government, and all controls with regard to policy will be in the hands of Government.

**Shri Ranga:** What more does the hon. Member want? 66 per cent is from outside. We do not have that money ourselves.

**Shri Shankariya (Mysore):** In view of the fact that two of the biggest iron and steel companies are situated in northern India, and three steel plants are being started in northern India, may I know what special reasons are assigned for not developing the iron and steel industry in the south, particularly the Bhadravati Iron and Steel Works on the same scale as the Rourkela or the Bhilai or the Durgapur plant? The necessary facilities are there, the iron ore there is of the richest variety. There is also electric potential to the tune of 7 lakhs kw from the Honnameradu project on the Sharavati river. When all these things are there, I do not know why Government are hesitating to develop the industry in the south, because

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. The hon. Member should not make a speech, but only ask a question. What he wants to know is this: When there are three steel plants, why should they not be distributed all over the

country, one in the east, one in the north and one in the south? That is the simple point.

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** I wish I could do that, if it were something moveable, I could take it from Bhilai and send it to somewhere in the south.

**Mr. Speaker:** That is not the point.

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** But it is a very immovable thing. Coal and iron ore cannot easily be changed over to another place. The ore has to be where it is.

So far as the expansion programme of the Bhadravati Works is concerned, that expansion programme is already known to hon. Members, and that was why I did not repeat it.

**Shri Basappa:** But it has been cut down from Rs 11 crores to Rs. 6 crores.

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** The complaint is that it has been cut from Rs 11 crores to Rs 6 crores. That is not the only thing that has been cut. There are many other things also. After all, we have to see what the overall resources of the country are, and if there are any cuts, well, the administrative Ministry may feel a little sorry but that is the end of it. We cannot do anything more. What I mean to say is that within the resources that are available, and having regard to the most economical utilisation of whatever resources we have, what has been done for the Bhadravati Works, is to my mind, very reasonable. If there is any concrete suggestion or any specific point which any hon. Member has to make, I am sure that he is most welcome to put it forward, and I shall examine it with all the care, and get it examined also.

I think I owe an explanation to my hon. friend from Bombay who raised a number of technical points relating to the various steel works. I wish I had time to reply to them, because it is very interesting and also easy to reply to them. If I am not replying

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to them now, it is not because we have not got any information on that score, but it is because of lack of time. I extend him an invitation to have a look at the detailed projects reports where all the replies are there to the points that he has raised. Even if I were to reply, I would only read out from those reports. If he feels interested in any of the by-products or in any of the other processes, he is most welcome to have a look at our papers on those points.

Mr. Speaker: I shall now put the cut motions to vote.

All the cut motions were put and negatived.

Mr. Speaker: I shall now put the Demands to vote in two groups, those with respect to which some amounts have already been voted upon by this House, and the others with respect to which no amounts have been voted so far, and which are new items

The question is:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper including the sums already voted on account for the relevant services be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1958, in respect of Demands Nos. 78, 81, and 126".

The motion was adopted

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper, be granted to the President, to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1958, in respect of the following heads of demands entered in the second column thereof:—

Demands Nos. 79 and 80".

The motion was negatived.

[The motions for Demands for Grants which were adopted by the Lok Sabha are reproduced below—Ed.].

#### DEMAND No. 78—MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND FUEL

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 31,15,000 including the sums already voted on account for the relevant services be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1958, in respect of 'Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel'".

#### DEMAND No. 79—MINES

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 28,37,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1958, in respect of 'Mines'".

#### DEMAND No 80—EXPLORATION OF OIL AND NATURAL GAS

"That a sum not exceeding Rs 1,50,31,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1958, in respect of 'Exploration of Oil and Natural Gas'".

#### DEMAND No 81—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS AND OTHER EXPENDITURE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND FUEL

"That a sum not exceeding Rs 55,96,93,000 including the sums already voted on account for the relevant services be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1958, in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Other Expenditure under the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel'".

**DEMAND NO. 128—CAPITAL OUTLAY OF  
THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND  
FUEL**

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,68,65,24,000 including the sums already voted on account for the relevant services be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course

of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1958, in respect of 'Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel'".

17.41 hrs.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, the 14th August, 1957.*

## DAILY DIGEST

[Tuesday, 13 August, 1957]

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840. Tax on Agricultural Income	8148-49	872. State Bank of India	8179
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843. Slum Clearance	8152-54	874. Loans for the Construction of Bhuvaneswar	8180
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854. Separation of Judiciary from Executive	8171	621. Rehabilitation of Ex-Servicemen	8188
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TABLE

8211-12

A copy of the Notification No.  
S.R.O. 1946., dated the 15th  
June, 1957, making certain  
amendments to the Medinal  
and Toilet Preparations (Ex-  
cise Duties) Rules, 1956.

CALLING ATTENTION TO  
MATTER OF URGENT  
PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

8212-18

Shri S.M. Benerjee called the  
attention of the Minister of  
Education and Scientific  
Research to the proposed  
strike by the Teachers in  
Government and Private  
Schools in Dehra on the 20th  
August, 1957.

The Minister of State in the  
Ministry of Education  
and Scientific Research  
(Dr K. I. Shrimali) made  
a statement in regard thereto  
and also laid on the Table  
a copy thereof.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS 8218-8346

Demands for Grants in respect  
of the Ministry of Steel,  
Mines and Fuel were dis-  
cussed and voted in full.

AGENDA FOR WEDNESDAY,  
14th AUGUST, 1957

Discussion on Demands for Grant  
in respect of the Ministry of  
Works, Housing and Supply